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City and Royal Burgh of Dunfermline

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# **ANNUAL REPORT**

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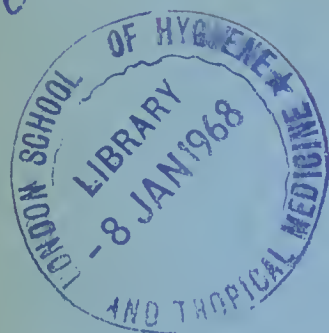
**HEALTH AND WELFARE**

**OF DUNFERMLINE**

FOR THE YEAR

**1953**

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City and Royal Burgh of Dunfermline

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# ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

# HEALTH OF DUNFERMLINE

FOR THE YEAR

1953

BY

C. BARCLAY REEKIE,

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,

*Medical Officer of Health*

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# Staff

## Health Department

- C. BARCLAY REEKIE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health; Medical Superintendent, West Fife Infectious Diseases Hospital; Administrative Medical Officer, Carnegie Dunfermline Trust; and Medical Superintendent, Bandrum Children's Home.
- ROBERT M. WINK, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Depute Medical Officer of Health; Medical Officer, West Fife Infectious Diseases Hospital.
- ISOBEL S. MOWAT, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Assistant Medical Officer of Health; Assistant Medical Officer, West Fife Infectious Diseases Hospital.
- DAVID M. CATHIE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Assistant Medical Officer of Health; Assistant Medical Officer, West Fife Infectious Diseases Hospital.

### CONSULTANTS.

- ROBERT I. STIRLING, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S.—Orthopædic Clinic.
- KENNETH McLAY, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S.—Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic.
- C. R. DUNCAN LEEDS, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S., D.O.M.S.—Ophthalmic Clinic.

### HEALTH VISITORS.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| Miss L. NISBET.                          | Miss A. S. MOIR.                          |
| Miss A. M. SOUTAR.                       | Miss M. B. BROWN<br>(resigned 15/2/53).   |
| Miss C. JOHNSTON.                        | Miss H. ROBERTSON.                        |
| Miss M. C. HOOD.                         | Miss H. L. PATERSON                       |
| Miss L. ROBERTSON.                       | Miss J. M. ERSKINE<br>(appointed 7/9/53). |
| Miss B. L. CRICHTON.                     | Miss L. STONELEY<br>(appointed 24/6/53).  |
| Miss J. I. M. MOIR<br>(resigned 7/6/53). |   |

The above-named are trained nurses and with one exception hold the Health Visitor's Certificate.

### HOME NURSING AND DOMICILIARY MIDWIFERY STAFF.

#### Dunfermline :

- |                    |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Miss E. TODD.      | Miss J. DOUGLAS. |
| Miss J. MacGREGOR. | Miss D. DUNCAN.  |

#### Rosyth :

- |   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| Miss L. STONELEY<br>(resigned 16/3/53).     | Miss I. W. SINCLAIR. |
| Miss M. H. McHATTIE<br>(appointed 16/3/53). |                      |

The above-named are Queen's District Nursing Sisters.

#### Part-time Domiciliary Midwives :

- |                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Mrs L. BEVERIDGE. | Mrs J. B. SLATER. |
| Mrs E. COX.       |                   |

The above-named have S.C.M. Certificate only.

## STAFFS—HEALTH DEPARTMENT—(Continued)—

### DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE.

Mrs I. FISHLEY, Supervisor.

### DAY NURSERIES.

Mrs J. THOMSON, R.G.N., Matron, Broomhead Nursery.

Miss I. FISHER, R.G.N., S.C.M., Matron, Rosyth Nursery.

### CLERICAL STAFF.

Miss J. G. ERSKINE, Chief Clerk.

Miss S. BEST.

Miss S. EADIE.

Miss M. MUMBERSON.

Miss C. CARSTAIRS.

Miss H. CROMBIE.

Miss F. ARMER.

Miss A. MITCHELL.

### MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE.

WILLIAM ADAMS, M.B., Ch.B., Certifying Officer.

ROBERT C. WALLACE, M.B., Ch.B., Certifying Officer.

BERTRAM FINNIE, Authorised Officer.

GEORGE K. PLUMMER, Authorised Officer.

### CARNEGIE DUNFERMLINE TRUST STAFF ENGAGED IN THE SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

Miss MADELINE G. LESLIE, L.D.S., R.C.S.—Dentist.

Miss AGNES B. WHITE, C.S.P.—Physiotherapist.

Miss N. WOOD—Speech Therapist.

#### Nurses:

Miss A. E. BENNETT, R.G.N.

Miss E. B. STENHOUSE, R.G.N.

Secretary: Miss M. C. McLAREN.

### *Sanitary Department.*

ALEXANDER H. DUNCAN, M.R.San.I., M.Inst. P.C., M.I.T.A., Chief Sanitary Inspector and Inspector of Cleansing.

GORDON S. WILSON, First Assistant Sanitary Inspector.

DONALD MACKAY, Second Assistant Sanitary Inspector.

WILLIAM K. ELLIS, Third Assistant Sanitary Inspector.

JAMES A. STEVENSON, Fourth Assistant Sanitary Inspector.

KENNETH N. FRASER, Senior Apprentice Sanitary Inspector (on National Service 11/7/53).

PETER K. FRANKLIN, Senior Apprentice.

JOHN DOUGLAS HENDRY, Junior Apprentice (appointed 1/12/53).

Miss MARGARET W. CHALMERS, Senior Shorthand/Typist-Clerkess.

Miss GRACE B. T. DICKSON, Junior Shorthand/Typist-Clerkess.

### *Social Services Department.*

G. K. PLUMMER, Social Services Officer.

BERTRAM FINNIE, Assistant Social Services Officer.

ARCHIBALD GRANT, Assistant Social Services Officer.

Miss CECILIA DAVIDSON, Clerkess (resigned 16/3/53).

Miss CHRISTIAN REDDIE, Welfare Assistant (appointed 13/4/53).

Miss CHRISTINA KILPATRICK, Shorthand Typist/Clerkess (resigned 25/6/53).

Miss AGNES OLIPHANT, Shorthand Typist/Clerkess (appointed 22/7/53).

Miss EUPHEMIA AITKEN, Junior Shorthand Typist/Clerkess (appointed 16/6/53).

### RESIDENTIAL HOMES.

Miss ELIZABETH BEATTIE, Matron, Davaar Residential Home.

Miss JEAN SHARP, Matron, Garvock House.

Mr WILLIAM T. MEAD and Mrs RUBY E. MEAD, Superintendent and Matron, Garthdee Residential Home.



*To the Provost, Magistrates, and Councillors of the  
City and Royal Burgh of Dunfermline, and to  
the Department of Health for Scotland.*

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Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report on the Health and Welfare of Dunfermline for the year 1953.

I am happy to avail myself of this opportunity of making grateful acknowledgment to all who so loyally co-operated with me in the work.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

C. BARCLAY REEKIE.

Medical Officer of Health.

Carnegie Clinic,  
Dunfermline, 31st July 1954.

## *Summary of Vital Statistics.*

The following is a summary of the principal statistics for the years 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952 and 1953.

	1948.	1949.	1950.	1951.	1952.	1953.
Population . . . . .	44,892	45,098	47,725	45,041	45,215	45,314
Number of Deaths (corrected) . . . .	481	457	510	492	469	495
Death-rate per 1000 population (corrected and adjusted for age and sex distribution) . . . . .	10.9	10.3	10.9	11.1	10.6	11.8
Deaths of infants under 1 year . . . .	41	32	22	25	17	28
Infantile mortality rate per 1000 live births . . . . .	48	43	30	34	24	41
Number of deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis . . . . .	16	13	12	11	7	7
Number of deaths from tuberculosis (all forms) . . . . .	20	14	15	11	8	9
Death-rate per 1000 population from pulmonary tuberculosis . . . . .	0.36	0.29	0.25	0.24	0.15	0.15
Death-rate per 1000 population from all forms of tuberculosis . . . .	0.45	0.31	0.31	0.24	0.18	0.20
Death-rate per 1000 population from the principal epidemic diseases..	0.04	0.09	0.04	0.09	0.04	0.09
Marriage-rate per 1000 population . .	10.0	9.8	8.3	9.9	9.3	8.3
Number of live births registered (corrected) . . . . .	852	737	738	746	716	680
Number of still-births registered (corrected) . . . . .	19	27	21	24	23	17
Live birth-rate per 1000 population.	19.0	16.3	15.5	16.6	15.8	15.0
Illegitimate births per 100 live births,	5.6	3.8	4.9	4.8	3.6	5.7
Maternal mortality rate (maternal deaths per 1000 live and still-births) . . . . .	2.3	2.6	3.9	0.0	0.0	0.0

## *A Brief Commentary of the Year.*

Since the inception of the National Health Service a constant endeavour has been made to bring about the closest co-operation and co-ordination of the preventive branch of the Service with the curative branches, in order to minimise, as far as possible, any cleavage which might occur between the prevention and treatment of disease.

A great factor in furthering this co-operation and co-ordination has been the Carnegie Clinic, which provides the administrative base for the Health Department and associated Social Welfare and Children's Departments. The building occupies a central situation and owing to the early pioneer work of its former owners, the Carnegie Dunfermline Trust, it has long been regarded by the citizens as forming a part of the life of the community. In acquiring the building it has been the privilege of Dunfermline Town Council to extend those foundations, and it now provides school medical and dental treatment clinics, ante-natal, child welfare, orthopaedic, ultra-violet light, and speech therapy clinics. The Chest Physician is permanently housed on the premises in a consulting and treatment unit for tuberculosis. The Regional Hospital Board provide regular specialist clinics for diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat, and orthopaedics. There is also an adult physiotherapy unit in association with the adjoining swimming pool and baths, and the Red Cross maintain a medical comforts dépôt.

The Carnegie Clinic is an almost perfect example of statutory and voluntary agencies, each playing their part for the welfare of the community with a physical link in common premises.

It is forty-eight years since the Carnegie Dunfermline Trust established a clinic service in Dunfermline, and the Town Council are collaborating with the Trust not only in maintaining and extending the service but in maintaining what in Dunfermline has become a tradition.

No opportunity has been lost during the year of furthering the dove-tailing of the various services available to the citizens. It is modestly claimed that some success has followed this endeavour.

Statistically, the year was not without event, both good and bad. On the debit side, an infantile mortality rate of 41 was disappointing and was due to a series of untoward happenings which included no fewer than four instances of accidental asphyxia. These were home accidents among the very young and create a problem which can only be overcome by more care, thought and action on the part of

an enlightened community. On the credit side there was, for the third year in succession, no maternal mortality, and a continuation of the low pulmonary tuberculosis death-rate of 0.15 per 1000.

The state of immunity against diphtheria continued at a high level, and for the sixth year in succession the disease was absent from Dunfermline.

In health work there are no artificial divisions that coincide with the different ages of childhood. Health care must be continuous and consecutive. To ensure this the routine examination of children aged one to five years was instituted. There has been a good response during the year and the results have been encouraging. The time to prevent physical defects in children is before, not after they go to school. It is the time to lay a sound basis for proper nutrition and to assure the child lasting health during a period when growth and development are more active than at any other age. Parents are now becoming convinced of the necessity for particular health supervision during this period and have co-operated well in this new scheme.

While much of the Health Department's work is devoted to the young, the care of old people and the problems which it raises command an ever increasing share of attention. It is essential to do everything possible to assist those who are able with help, to continue to live in their own homes. In this respect the domestic helps have rendered yeoman service and have done much to prevent the onset of chronic sickness and have enabled old people to carry through the ordinary routine of independent living.

The future holds many tasks. Despite the success of the child welfare service an expanding town such as Dunfermline brings fresh problems. There is the health education of the incoming citizen and the fact that many mothers and their children resident in new housing areas at considerable distances from existing clinics are deprived of the benefits of the services. Steps are being taken to extend the services into the new housing areas to meet this need.

The scheme for B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis is at present in its initial stages and confined to the vaccination of children approaching school leaving age. This opens up a very large and time-consuming field of work, and it is hoped to extend it to other age groups as time goes on.

It has been the endeavour of all who serve in the Health Department to instil into their work the sense of a personal factor, which does much for the creation of confidence, security and happiness in the community. In this it is claimed there has been some success as measured by the response of the citizens to the services which are offered.

# ANNUAL REPORT.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

**Population.**—The population as estimated by the Registrar General to 30th June 1953 was 45,314, being an increase of 99 over the figure for 1952.

**Births.**—The live births registered after correction for transfers were 680, equivalent to a birth-rate of 15.0 per thousand of population as compared with 15.8 in the preceding year. The rate for Scotland was 17.8 per thousand population.

It is of interest to compare the figures with those of previous years.

1926-1930	Average Birth-rate	16.9
1931-1935	Do.	16.3
1936-1940	Do.	15.8
1941-1945	Do.	18.2
1946-1950	Do.	18.3
1951	Birth-rate	16.6
1952	Do.	15.8
1953	Do.	15.0

The number of still-births registered after correction for transfers during the year was 17, giving a rate of 24 per thousand total births. The number of still-births registered for a number of years past, with the corresponding rates per thousand total births are as follow:—

		Still-births.	Rate per thousand total births.
1941-1945	Average .. .. .	26	31
1946-1950	Do. .. .. .	25	29
1951	.. .. .	24	31
1952	.. .. .	23	31
1953	.. .. .	17	24

**Deaths.**—The deaths registered after correction for transfers were 495, which is equivalent to a death-rate (adjusted for age and sex distribution) of 11.8. This compares with 11.5 for Scotland and 11.0 for the large burghs. The following are the figures for preceding years:—

1926-1930	Average Death-rate	12.2
1931-1935	Do.	12.3
1936-1940	Do.	12.6
1941-1945	Do.	11.8
1946-1950	Do.	11.4
1951	Death-rate	11.1
1952	Do.	10.6
1953	Do.	11.8



**Deaths from Infectious Diseases.**—There were 4 deaths from the ordinary infectious diseases, viz.:—Cerebro-spinal fever 2, whooping cough 1, and acute poliomyelitis 1.

**Deaths from Cancer.**—The deaths from cancer were 74, which is equivalent to a death-rate of 1.63 as compared with 1.72 for the previous year.

The following are the death-rates from cancer for a number of years:—

1931-1935	Average.	1.48
1936-1940	Do.	1.38
1941-1945	Do.	1.49
1946-1950	Do.	1.65
1951	Rate.	1.26
1952	Do.	1.72
1953	Do.	1.63

## CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.

**Maternal Mortality.**—For the third year in succession there were no deaths from causes related to pregnancy and childbirth. The maternal mortality rate for Scotland as a whole in 1953 was 0.9 per 1000 total births.

**Infantile Mortality.**—During 1953 there were 28 deaths among children under 1 year of age as compared with 17 in 1952. The infant mortality rate for the year was 41 per 1000 live births which compares with the rate of 31 for Scotland as a whole and 32 for the large burghs during the same period. With a record low rate of 24 in the previous year, this figure of 41 is disappointing.

The following are the figures for previous years so far as they are available:—

1916-1920	Average infantile mortality rate		85
1921-1925	Do.	do.	79
1926-1930	Do.	do.	67
1931-1935	Do.	do.	58
1936-1940	Do.	do.	59
1941-1945	Do.	do.	57
1946-1950	Do.	do.	42
1951	Infantile mortality rate		34
1952	Do.		24
1953	Do.		41

A detailed study of the deaths in this period of life reveals the following facts:—Of the total deaths 12 (43 per cent.) occurred in the neo-natal period, that is during the first 4 weeks of life, and were due to prematurity 6, birth injury 3, pneumonia of newborn 1, diarrhoea of newborn 1, icterus gravis neonatorum 1. The remaining

16 deaths were of infants over 4 weeks of age and were due to congenital malformation 5, accidental asphyxia 4, pneumonia 2, gastro-enteritis 2, pulmonary abscess 1, meningococcal infection 1, and convulsions 1.

**Expectant Mothers.**—There is an arrangement with the Ministry of Food whereby the local area office forwards a weekly list of the expectant mothers who claim the extra food ration to which they are entitled. During the year 509 names were submitted. This facilitates the maintenance of a register of expectant mothers. Health visitors visited the women in their homes to ensure that arrangements had been made for their ante-natal care and supervision, and to give advice and training in mothercraft.

Seventy-two per cent. of the women arranged to be confined in the Maternity Hospital, where the Consultant Obstetrician supervised their ante-natal and post-natal care. General practitioners also referred cases to the Obstetrician for consultation.

**Ante-natal and Post-natal Clinics.**—The ante-natal department of the Maternity Hospital held seven clinic sessions a week throughout the year. At the ante-natal clinic, 502 women made 5,668 attendances, showing an increase of 22 over the previous year in the number of women attending, but a decrease of 234 in the total number of attendances. At the post-natal clinic 494 women made 1,202 attendances showing an increase of 64 and 165 respectively. Blood was taken from all new patients for the Wassermann reaction and Rhesus factor determination.

**District Nurses Ante-natal Clinic.**—A room in the Carnegie Clinic is reserved for the use of the district nurses where an ante-natal session is held for women who are to be confined at home. During the year 120 woman made 265 attendances.

Maternity packs are issued from the Health Department on demand for domiciliary confinement. Two hundred and eight packs were issued during the year.

Twenty-seven maternity outfits were supplied on loan to suitable cases on application by midwives only. The outfits consist of bed linen and towels and are for use for a period of three weeks from the date of confinement.

**Child Welfare Clinics.**—There are six child welfare clinics. The days and hours of attendance are as stated in previous reports. The

following table shows the attendances during the year at each of the clinics:—

	AGE GROUP	Balbridgeburn	Inglis Street	Kingseat	Nethertown	Rosyth	Townhill	Totals	
Number of children who attended and who on the date of their first attendance were :—	Under 1 year	166	208	22	258	325	103	1,082	2,272
	Over 1 year	226	103	28	143	538	152	1,190	
Total number of attendances by children	Under 1 year	1,758	2,019	158	2,658	3,377	970	10,940	16,567
	Over 1 year	983	701	190	1,200	1,936	617	5,627	

The total number of attendances shows an increase of 348 over that of the previous year. This has been achieved in spite of the fact that many mothers and young children were deprived of the benefits of clinic attendance, as they now live in new housing areas at considerable distances from existing clinics. This applies particularly to the extensive housing development in the Aberdour Road area, and active steps are being taken to provide premises there. There is no doubt that expansion of the service must take place in the direction of the population movement.

The child welfare clinics are a part of the community life and are open to all mothers for advice on the welfare and management of their children. The emphasis is on maintaining health and every endeavour is made to give a knowledge of correct feeding and child management.

Despite the difficulties referred to, 78.5 per cent. of the children born and resident within Dunfermline attended clinics during their first year of life. It is estimated that 54.5 per cent. of all children under 5 years of age attended clinics during that age period.

Advice was given regarding the following conditions:—

Anaemia . . . . .	26	Neurological defects . . . . .	28
Circulatory system defects . . . . .	9	Nutritional defects . . . . .	177
Congenital abnormalities . . . . .	38	Nutritional disease (Pink) . . . . .	1
Dental caries . . . . .	27	Ophthalmic defects . . . . .	126
Dermatological conditions . . . . .	349	Orthopaedic defects . . . . .	158
Ear, nose and throat defects . . . . .	290	Parasitic intestinal conditions . . . . .	34
Gastro-intestinal conditions . . . . .	128	Parasitic skin conditions . . . . .	2
Infectious diseases . . . . .	6	Reaction to vaccination and inoculation . . . . .	13
Inguinal hernia . . . . .	5	Respiratory infections . . . . .	181
Injuries . . . . .	23	Rickets . . . . .	1
Mastitis . . . . .	4	Speech defects . . . . .	8
Mental delinquency . . . . .	1		





Mrs HARGREAVES	}	At Inglis Street Clinic.
Mrs MORTON		
Mrs VALENTINE		
Miss ROBERTSON	}	At Nethertown Clinic.
Miss B. ROBERTSON		
Mrs RUTHERFORD		

**Day Nurseries.**—There are two nurseries situated at Broomhead and Rosyth, providing full daytime care for children up to five years of age for five and a half days per week. They are primarily for children whose mothers are in employment, ill or being confined. The children are medically inspected at monthly intervals.

Broomhead provides accommodation for 62 children, and Rosyth for 40 children.

Both nurseries are approved training schools for the Nursery Nurses Certificates and work in conjunction with the McCrone Pre-Nursing School. In the course of the year three students obtained the certificate.

#### BROOMHEAD.

##### *Attendances:*

Children under 2 years—	
Total number of attendances . . . . .	1,989
Children over 2 years—	
Total number of attendances . . . . .	9,198
Receipts, £1,448, 10s.	

#### ROSYTH.

##### *Attendances:*

Children under 2 years—	
Total number of attendances . . . . .	1,807
Children over 2 years—	
Total number of attendances . . . . .	5,482
Receipts, £883, 13s.	

**Treatment Clinics.**—The various school clinics also cater for pre-school children, and the number treated during the year is shown in the following table:—

Clinic.	Number of Cases.	Number of Attendances.
Ear, nose and throat . . . . .	136	154
Eye . . . . .	20	43
Skin . . . . .	52	129
General . . . . .	237	350
Ultra-violet light . . . . .	48	888
Orthopaedic . . . . .	168	647
Defective speech . . . . .	26	325
Dental . . . . .	237	259
Total numbers . . . . .	924	2,795

A physiotherapist undertakes the treatment of the orthopaedic cases and the speech therapist is in charge of the defective speech clinic.

**Specialist Clinics.**—The specialist clinics attached to the school health service are available to children under school age.

Mr. Robert I. Stirling, F.R.C.S., is the Consulting Orthopaedic Specialist, and during the year he examined 53 children. Mr. Kenneth McLay, F.R.C.S., is Consultant to the ear, nose and throat clinic, and during the year saw 42 children. Mr. C. R. Duncan Leeds, F.R.C.S., D.O.M.S., is the Consultant in charge of the ophthalmic clinic. Thirty-five children were examined and 10 re-examined in the course of the year. The Specialists are available at the following intervals:—Orthopaedic, monthly; ear, nose and throat, monthly; ophthalmic, weekly.

The services of a Paediatrician in a consultative capacity became available at the Northern Hospital during the latter part of the year. Copies of his reports on the examination of all Dunfermline children are forwarded to the Medical Officer of Health.

**Routine Examination of Children (1·5 years of age).**—The routine medical examination of children (1·5 years of age) continued throughout the year. The system adopted is similar to that pertaining to the schools. Special sessions are held at the various child welfare clinics, the parents are notified, and the children examined by appointment. The scheme has been welcomed and there has been a good response.

During the year 82 sessions were held and 1,260 children were examined. A total of 796 children were discovered to be suffering from some form of physical defect and received appropriate treatment. Of that number 140 were referred to Specialists. The main defective conditions were in connection with ear, nose and throat, 242, and orthopaedics, 195. A remarkable feature was the absence of nutritional defects which numbered only 11.

It will be appreciated that this scheme is a valuable preventive measure which has not been in existence long enough to assess its full effect on the health of the school entrant group, too many of whom in the past were found to be suffering from remedial physical defects. It has the further advantage that the medical officers undertaking the examinations are also the school medical officers, so that they are in fact child health officers responsible for the health both of the pre-school and school child. This short experience indicates

how vast is the field in respect of the detection of early signs of disease before the onset of structural changes.

**Care of Premature Infants.**—To ensure the care of premature infants an arrangement has been made to admit women in premature labour as emergencies to the Maternity Hospital whenever possible. If the mother and infant have to remain at home, special equipment for the care of the infant is issued on loan from the Health Department and supervision maintained by the appropriate authority nursing services.

**Dental Care.**—The School Dental Officer treated 237 pre-school children who made 259 attendances during the year. There is only one school dental officer. This is not adequate to cover the needs of the school population, and priority must be given in appointing additional staff.

Mothers and young children are referred to dental practitioners of their own choice.

**Children's Homes.**—There are no residential nurseries provided by the Town Council under Section 22 of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act, 1947.

Under the provisions of the Children Act, a mansion house in the vicinity of Dunfermline named the Martha Frew Children's Home provides approximately 34 places for deprived children.

The medical supervision of the Home is undertaken by the Medical Officer of Health. The Health Department medical staff examine the children prior to admission and attend to their medical needs while resident.

**Bandrum Children's Convalescent Home.**—By arrangement between Dunfermline Town Council and the South-Eastern Regional Hospital Board, the Medical Officer of Health acts as Medical Superintendent of this institution.

Children requiring a period of convalescence are admitted from the various hospitals serving the West Fife area, from the child welfare and school clinics or by recommendation from their own family doctor. They are all debilitated and ailing from various causes, their chief need being ample rest and quiet, regular hours of sleep, good food and fresh air.

At the beginning of the year 18 children were in residence and 214 were admitted during the year, making a total of 232 children



(126 boys and 106 girls). The average duration of stay was 33 days. The average gain in weight was 2 lbs. 12 ozs.

**Children Acts, 1937-1948.**—The number of children registered under the above Acts on 1st January 1953 was 8. Two were added to the register and 2 were removed from the register during the year. The number on the roll at the end of the year was 8.

The health visitors are also child life protection visitors and they made 44 visits to these children. The conditions in each case were satisfactory and the children were well cared for.

### MIDWIFERY.

During the year 224 women applied for the domiciliary midwifery service provided by the Town Council. Of this number 12 were removed to hospital for confinement and 1 left the district.

The staff engaged in the service consisted of two full-time midwives and the part-time employment of three midwives in private practice.

Applicants for this service approach the midwife of their choice, who in turn notifies the Medical Officer of Health as soon as a case is accepted. Record forms are then issued to the midwife, who returns them on completion of the confinement.

A general practitioner was engaged for all these domiciliary confinements except in two instances.

The registers, temperature charts, and appliances of all midwives practising within the burgh were inspected and the midwives interviewed by the Obstetrician. Private practising midwives were also supervised by the health visitors.

The district nursing sisters of Dunfermline District conduct ante-natal sessions in a room reserved for the purpose in the Carnegie Clinic; similarly in Rosyth, ante-natal sessions are held in the Nurses' Home.

Where housing and social conditions are unsuitable for confinement in the home, women are admitted to the Maternity Hospital. With the improvement in housing conditions in no instance was this necessary during the year.

District training for pupil midwives in the Dunfermline Maternity Hospital is undertaken by the senior district nursing sisters, who have been approved as teachers by the Central Midwives Board.

This arrangement makes it possible for the Maternity Hospital to train midwives for Part II of the S.C.M. Certificate, and is a valuable contribution towards co-ordinating the work of the Local Authority with that of the Hospital Board. During the year ten students were trained.

Two houses are provided by the Town Council for the accommodation of the Dunfermline and Rosyth district nurses respectively.

A motor car is provided for the senior nursing sister of the Dunfermline district; apart from this, transport is obtained by the public services. Taxis are engaged when necessary.

The following table gives details of the work done during the year:—

(i.) Total number of births occurring in the area during the year—that is before correction for mother's residence:—			
Live Births, 1,416.	Still Births, 43.	Total,	1,459
(ii.) Total number of births in (i) occurring in institutions (including private maternity homes):—Maternity Hospital . . . . .			
			1,261
(iii.) Number of births in (i) occurring at home:—			
Live . . . . .			194
Still . . . . .			4
			198
(iv.) Number of births in (iii.) classified to show nature of attendance at birth:—			

	Cases dealt with under Section 23 (2) of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act, 1947.			Other domiciliary cases.				Total.
	Doctor engaged and present at confinement.	Doctor engaged and not present at confinement.	Midwife alone (no doctor engaged).	Doctor and Midwife engaged.	Midwife alone (no doctor engaged).	Without doctor or midwife	All Other Cases.	
(a) Midwives employed by the Authority (including those engaged on a fee-per-case basis) . . . . .	96	98	2	—	—	—	—	196
(b) Midwives employed by Voluntary Organisations under arrangements made by the Authority	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Midwives employed by Hospital Boards of Management under arrangements made by the Authority with the Regional Hospital Board... . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(d) Private practising midwives . . . . .	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
(e) Other cases not classified above	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(f) Totals . . . . .	96	98	2	2	—	—	—	198

## (v.) Medical Aid—

(a) Number of cases in which medical aid was summoned during the year under Section 14 (1) of the Midwives (Scotland) Act, 1951, by a Midwife:—

(i.) For Domiciliary cases .. .. .	Nil.
(ii.) For Institutional cases .. .. .	Nil.

## (vi.) Administration of Analgesics—

(a) Number of domiciliary midwives in the area qualified to administer gas and air analgesia in accordance with the requirements of the Central Midwives Board for Scotland (including superintendents, non-medical supervisors of midwives, midwife teachers, midwives employed by the local health authority and by voluntary organisations, private practising midwives, and hospital midwives undertaking domiciliary cases under arrangements made by the local health authority and the Regional Hospital Board but excluding pupil midwives undergoing training on the district) .. .. .

7

(i.) Number in (a) employed on local health authority work .. .. .

7

(ii.) Number in (a) not employed on local health authority work .. Nil.

(b) Number of domiciliary midwives who received their training during the year .. .. .

Nil.

(c) Number of sets of Apparatus for the administration of gas and air in use in the area at 31st December 1953 .. .. .

1

(i.) Number in (c) in use by domiciliary midwives employed on local health authority work (including those in use by hospital midwives undertaking domiciliary cases) .. .. .

1

(ii.) Number in (c) in use by domiciliary midwives not employed on local health authority work .. .. . Nil.

(d) Number of sets on order at 31st December 1953 .. .. .

Nil.

(e) Number of cases in which gas and air was administered by midwives in domiciliary practice during the year (including cases attended by hospital midwives undertaking domiciliary cases):—

(i.) When doctor was not present at delivery .. .. .

44

(ii.) When doctor was present at delivery .. .. .

12

(Trilene), 7 }

19

(f) Number of cases in which pethidine was administered by midwives in domiciliary practice during the year (including cases attended by hospital midwives undertaking domiciliary cases):—

(i.) When doctor was not present at delivery .. .. .

3

(ii.) When doctor was present at delivery .. .. .

20

(vii.) Number of cars in use by midwives at 31st December 1953 .. .. .

1

## HEALTH VISITING.

In Dunfermline, to enable health visitors to get to know more intimately the families they are advising and to save duplication of visits to the same home, they are all-purpose visitors and not only undertake the care of mothers and young children, but also act as school nurses and tuberculosis nurses.

The town is divided into ten districts. Each health visitor has a district and attends the appropriate clinics and schools.

A complete knowledge of each family as a unit is thereby gained.

The duties of the health visitor are now statutory and very much wider than they were prior to 1948, because Section 24 of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act, 1947, placed on local authorities, a duty to make provision for the visiting of persons in their homes by health visitors to advise in the care not only of expectant and nursing mothers and young children, but also of persons suffering from illness and on the measures necessary to promote health and to prevent the spread of infection.

While special attention continues to be given to young children, the emphasis is now on the family and the solving of any problem affecting it.

It would be idle to pretend that all the new statutory duties laid down for health visitors can be carried out by the existing staff of eleven employed by the Town Council. For this the Town Council are in no way to blame, for they have obtained sanction from the Secretary of State for an ultimate complement of twenty-two. It is due to the fact that there is an acute shortage of suitably qualified recruits for the service, and apart from increasing the staff long periods elapse between resignations of existing staff and filling vacancies.

In spite of all this, an attempt has been made to adapt the service to existing conditions. A daily discharge list of mothers and infants is obtained by telephone from the Maternity Hospital and they are visited forthwith. Similarly, patients discharged from the Infectious Diseases Hospital are visited. It has not been possible to link up the health visiting service with the General Hospitals (surgical and medical) other than to issue a request to them to notify the Welfare Department of patients over 65 years of age who on discharge would appear to be in need of welfare services. Visits by health visitors to old people were inaugurated in a limited way during the year, especially to those living alone. It is hoped that an additional member to the staff may be obtained at an early date to permit of the extension of this service. The advice of health visitors can do much to preserve the health of old people. They are aware of all the services, statutory and voluntary, which function on their behalf, and can set in motion the necessary machinery to procure them. Examples of these are financial aid, medical attention, chiropody, meals-on-wheels, etc.

A register of old people, particularly of those living by themselves, has been compiled by the Social Services Officer. This register at the end of the year contained over 300 names and should



facilitate co-ordination of the work of the statutory and voluntary bodies.

The health visitors are available to work in co-operation with general medical practitioners, some of whom ask for their assistance in special cases.

It has to be realised that in the education of the public in health matters there is none in a more important strategic position than the health visitor. She visits the homes at her discretion without waiting to be summoned, and with her presence at the clinics has a potential power to influence the whole family towards a better way of living which will inevitably lead to better health. At the same time, when there is only a limited qualified staff available and expansion of the service is being considered, it would be unwise to forget the enormous success which has followed their work among mothers and young children. That service should continue and should not be detracted from. Never was evolution in place of revolution more necessary.

The following table is a record of the visits made by health visitors during the year:—

	No. Visited.	Total Visits.
Expectant mothers . . . . .	601	1,142
Children under 1 year of age . . . . .	1,378	10,265
Children between the age of 1 and 5 . . . .	2,786	14,280
Tuberculosis cases . . . . .	343	1,629
Other cases . . . . .	108	196
Total visits paid . . . . .	5,216	27,512

## HOME NURSING.

The combined duties of home nursing and midwifery are undertaken by a staff of six whole-time nurses and one part-time. The whole-time nurses are affiliated to the Queen's Institute of District Nursing and reside in the two houses provided by the Town Council in Dunfermline and Rosyth respectively.

The nursing of patients in their own homes is undertaken on the request and under the direction of medical practitioners, and emergency cases undertaken are subject to their subsequent approval.

Liaison with hospitals is maintained through the general medical practitioner.

The nurses themselves do not maintain a night service for home nursing, but the former Dunfermline Nursing Association Committee provide a night "sitter in" service.

There are no arrangements for the training of pupil nurses in district work.

The home nurses attended and made 17,691 visits to patients in their own homes during the year. The following table gives details of the work:—

	Patients.				Visits.				
	Medical.	Surgical.	Midwifery.	Total.	Medical.	Surgical.	Midwifery.	Ante-natal.	Total.
Dunfermline ...	281	34	105	420	9,894	1,748	1,693	162	13,497
Rosyth ...	100	41	68	209	1,843	877	1,116	358	4,194
Totals ...	381	75	173	629	11,737	2,625	2,809	520	17,691

Two hundred and fifteen patients were of the age-group sixty-five years and over, and 6,590 visits were made to them. There is an ever increasing number of old people living independent lives who find themselves in difficulty when illness occurs. This work involves in the main a heavier type of nursing which is time-consuming and will necessitate an increase of staff to implement the agreed policy that old people should live in their own homes as far as possible, a proposition only made practical by the efficiency of the domiciliary medical and nursing care and welfare services.

**Medical Loan Depot.**—The local branch of the British Red Cross Society maintain within the Health Department a store of selected surgical and medical appliances which are available to the nurses when required.

### DOMESTIC HELP.

The scheme for the provision of domestic help for households goes from strength to strength. Forty-seven cases were carried forward from the previous year and 164 new applications were received. One hundred and sixty-eight householders were given assistance on account of the following conditions:—Elderly and

infirm 88, chronic sick 20, general illness 37, maternity cases 16, and tuberculosis 7.

The average period for which assistance was given was 59 days.

At the end of the year 69 householders were in receipt of the service, and 1 whole-time supervisor and 35 part-time domestic helps were employed.

The charge continues at the rate of 2/- per hour, but this is subject to a reduction in cases where financial circumstances warrant it.

Of the 168 persons who received assistance 105 paid full rate, 4 paid as assessed in the scale of charges, and of the 59 who paid the minimum charge, 41 received additional allowances from the National Assistance Board to enable them to pay this charge.

When an application is received for a domestic help, the Supervisor visits the home immediately, so that a suitable help is detailed for the household in which she is to serve. This is important and much of the success of the service is due to this factor, which engenders confidence on both sides.

Briefly the main categories of cases to which home helps are allocated are general illness, maternity cases, tuberculosis, and elderly and infirm. It will be realised that each of these categories requires a different psychological approach. As the figures indicate, the elderly and infirm provide the heaviest burden on the service, a burden which is not likely to lighten as the years go on.

There can be no doubt about the value of the service which alleviates the difficulties caused by the present shortage of hospital accommodation and, in a general way, makes a material contribution to the health and welfare of the citizens.

## VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

Vaccination against smallpox. Details of vaccinations notified during the year are as follows:—

	Primary Vaccinations.	Re-vaccinations.
Typical vaccinia greatest at 7th to 10th day ..	501	37
Accelerated (vaccinoid) Reaction (5th to 7th day) .. . . . . .	9	11
Reaction greatest at 2nd to 3rd day .. . . .	—	18
No local reaction .. . . . . .	16	3
Totals .. . . . . .	526	69

Of the 526 persons who received primary vaccinations, 328 were children born in 1953 and 174 were children born in 1952. General practitioners notified 150 primary vaccinations and 66 re-vaccinations.

Three hundred and seventy-six primary vaccinations were carried out at the local authority clinics. Compulsion has given way to persuasion, and it is now the task of the Health Department to impress upon parents the necessity to have their children vaccinated against smallpox. An arrangement continues with the Registrar of Births whereby a special propaganda leaflet prepared by the Medical Officer of Health is given to the parent at the time of registration of a birth. Propaganda is carried out at all the clinics by the medical staff and health visitors, and by the latter in the course of their routine visits to the homes.

**Immunisation against Diphtheria.**—The state of immunity against the disease continues at a high level. It is estimated that at the end of the year 89 per cent. of all children received protective inoculations. This is a conservative estimate as it is known that some records from general practitioners had not been received. For the sixth year in succession there was no case of diphtheria in Dunfermline.

Immunisation is advised by the health visitors in the course of their routine visits to infants, and the option is given for this to be carried out by the family doctor or at a Child Welfare Clinic; where the mother is unable for any reason to take her child for immunisation or where the parents are indifferent, visits to the homes by the Health Department Medical Staff are arranged and immunisation carried out. Re-inforcing inoculations were given to school entrants and again at the age of 10 and 15 years. During the year 751 children were given a full primary course of immunisation against diphtheria and 1,404 children received re-inforcing inoculations. One hundred and twenty-three inoculations were given by general practitioners, 2,032 inoculations were given by the Health Department Medical Staff.

**Immunisation against Whooping Cough.**—Immunisation against this disease is recommended and carried out on request at the Child Welfare Clinics. The numbers show an annual increase, and this year 637 infants were given a full course of protection, commencing at the age of six months.

Immunisation against whooping cough appears to require little propaganda. Parents know the disease and are anxious to adopt



any procedure to avoid the inevitable upset in the household caused by nursing a patient at home.

Of the 28 cases of whooping cough notified during the year, 25 occurred in children who had not been immunised. In the remaining three instances the children had been immunised some years previously.

## PREVENTION, CARE, AND AFTER-CARE.

### 1. Tuberculosis.

On receipt of notification, either the initial notification or a "transfer-in" notice, cases are visited by the health visitors. At this visit a full environmental report is taken and details noted concerning all contacts. Advice is given regarding the nursing care, fresh air, rest, and adequate nutrition.

At all times a close liaison is maintained with the Chest Physician to the West Fife Area, who has his consulting and treatment centre in the Carnegie Clinic. All notifications with environmental reports are forwarded to the Chest Physician who in turn informs the Medical Officer of Health of his clinical assessment of each case, thus completing the environmental report. The Chest Physician also supplies special reports concerning pre-school and school children, sputa results, and details of all admissions and discharges from hospital.

**Domiciliary visits.**—These are made by the health visitors as and when required according to the needs of each case. At these visits inquiry is made into the patient's health and welfare, bed bathing is carried out in those cases strictly confined to bed and where recommended by the Chest Physician, streptomycin injections are given.

During the year 343 persons were visited by the health visitors, and the total number of visits made was 1,629.

At these visits opportunity is also taken of explaining the scheme of assistance grants payable by the National Assistance Board.

Medical comforts are supplied when considered necessary, and in cases of financial hardship free milk to the extent of 2 pints per day and virol free of charge are issued.

During the year the following number of patients received free milk:—

In receipt of benefit on 1/1/53.	Granted benefit during the year.	Ceased benefit during the year.	In receipt of benefit on 31/12/53.
42	32	43	31

Two hundred and forty pounds of virol were issued during the year.

Occupational therapy is also encouraged in domiciliary cases, and, if desired, representatives of the Red Cross visit the patient's home and supply material for rug making, embroidery, leatherwork, sewing, etc.

A special library service is provided for tuberculous patients. This was started during the year but few people took advantage of the scheme.

The Domestic Help Service is available for those cases requiring assistance in maintaining the normal household activities.

**Hospital treatment.**—It is worthy of note that at the end of the year there were only 7 cases on the waiting list for hospital admission, and of these 2 were awaiting admission to a thoracic unit.

During the year 84 patients suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis were treated in the under-mentioned hospitals:—

Ochil Hills Sanatorium .. .. .	37
West Fife Infectious Diseases Hospital .. .. .	27
Glenlomond Sanatorium .. .. .	13
Glen O' Dec Sanatorium .. .. .	2
Bandrum Children's Home .. .. .	1
Eastern General Hospital .. .. .	1
East Fortune Sanatorium .. .. .	1
Mearnskirk Sanatorium .. .. .	1
Northern Hospital, Dunfermline .. .. .	1
Total .. .. .	<u>84</u>

Ten cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were treated in hospital as shown:—

Princess Margaret Rose Hospital .. .. .	5
Glenlomond Sanatorium .. .. .	5
Total .. .. .	<u>10</u>

**Housing.**—The importance of a good home environment with no overcrowding is realised, and every endeavour is made to see that all tuberculous households are adequately housed. Where the housing conditions are unsatisfactory, high priority is given to rehousing.

During the year 22 families were rehoused.

**Disinfection.**—Where considered necessary this is carried out on the admission of a patient to hospital and at other times as required. It is undertaken by the Sanitary Inspector's Staff who

visit the home, carry out the necessary disinfection, and give general advice.

Households in which there is residing a tuberculous patient may obtain soap and disinfectant free of charge for disinfection purposes.

**B.C.G. Vaccination.**—Preliminary Mantoux testing and B.C.G. vaccination with conversion Mantoux reading of those pupils leaving school in 1953 were undertaken by the Chest Physician, Medical Staff and Health Visitors of the Health Department.

Parents seem to be aware of the advantage of B.C.G. vaccination and a good response was obtained. The co-operation of parents and teachers is to be commended.

All categories, other than school leavers, were dealt with personally by the Chest Physician.

The following table shows the numbers tested and vaccinated during the year:—

	Tuberculin tested.		Negative re-actors.		Vaccinated during 1953.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
(1) Nurses . . . . .	2	17	—	8	—	8
(2) Medical Students . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—
(3) Contacts . . . . .	87	83	65	63	24	36
(4) Special Groups not included in (1) to (3) above:—						
(a) School leavers . . . . .	133	110	63	62	63	62
(b) New born babies . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	4
(5) Others . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—

## 2. Chiropody.

No chiropody service is provided by the local authority, but this is done by two voluntary organisations, the Dunfermline District Nursing Association and the Dunfermline and Rosyth Old People's Welfare Committee.

Under the auspices of these organisations a chiropody clinic is available in Dunfermline and in Rosyth, and if required home visits for treatment are arranged. This is a service which plays an important role in the Old People's Welfare.

## 3. Health Propaganda.

During the year talks on health topics were given to organised groups such as Women's Guilds and clubs, by lecturers from the

Scottish Council for Health Education, and by members of the Health Department.

It is felt that talks to this type of preformed audience are more worth while, as open sessions for the general public are frequently badly attended.

The health visitors undertook a certain amount of propaganda work with particular reference to accidents in the home.

Copies of the book "The Health of Mother and Child" were available at all child welfare clinics, where again, the health visitor took every opportunity of dealing with health matters in general.

### **CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.**

The corrected total number of cases of notifiable infectious diseases (including all forms of tuberculosis) during the year was 776, of which nine were Service cases.

The highest number of notifications occurred in the first quarter, measles being responsible for 79 per cent. of the cases.



DETAILS OF THE CORRECTED NOTIFICATIONS AND INTIMATIONS ARE SHOWN IN THE FOLLOWING TABLE:—

	Cerebro-spinal fever.	Chickenpox.	Dysentery.	Erysipelas.	Measles.	Ophthalmia neonatorum.	Pneumonia, broncho	Pneumonia, influenzal.	Pneumonia, lobar.	Poliomyelitis.	Puerperal fever.	Scarlet fever.	Tuberculosis— pulmonary.	Tuberculosis— non-pulmonary.	Whooping cough.	Totals.
January	...	1	...	2	126	...	7	...	6	...	...	10	2	2	3	159
February	...	...	...	...	104	...	3	...	13	...	...	6	3	1	...	1
March	...	1	...	...	117	...	...	...	10	...	...	8	3	2	1	132
April	...	...	1	3	14	...	1	1	6	...	...	1	7	...	...	4
May	...	...	...	...	11	1	6	...	9	...	...	16	8	...	...	146
June	...	1	...	2	4	2	1	...	6	...	1	27	1	1	...	2
July	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	2	...	...	23	3	2	...	37
August	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	7	...	...	13	4	2	3	1
September	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	5	1	...	7	5	...	6	31
October	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	7	...	...	20	1	...	8	1
November	...	...	...	...	1	...	3	...	4	...	...	25	1	...	2	30
December	...	1	...	1	...	...	4	...	3	1	...	15	2	...	5	39
Totals	2	6 11	2	14	383	28	1	1	78	2	1	173	40	10	28	776

Figures in black denote Service cases.

**Chickenpox.**—Although this disease is not notifiable, 9 cases were intimated. To the 9 confirmed cases should be added 2 cases notified as scarlet fever. This gives a corrected total of 11 confirmed cases. Six were from the Services. All cases were treated in hospital.

**Dysentery.**—Three cases of bacillary dysentery were notified. In 2 instances the diagnosis was not confirmed. One case intimated as enteritis should be added to the confirmed case. This gives a corrected total of 2 confirmed cases. Both cases were treated in hospital; one was found to be suffering from Flexner dysentery and the other from Sonn  dysentery.

**Erysipelas.**—Thirteen cases of erysipelas were notified. In one instance the diagnosis was not confirmed. To the 12 confirmed cases should be added 2 cases, one notified as cerebro-spinal meningitis and one herpes of face. This gives a corrected total of 14 confirmed cases. Seven cases were removed to hospital.

**Gastro-enteritis.**—Nineteen cases of gastro-enteritis were intimated. In six cases the diagnosis was not confirmed. To the 13 confirmed cases should be added 2 cases notified as dysentery and 2 cases notified as broncho-pneumonia, giving a corrected total of 17 confirmed cases. All cases were removed to hospital.

**Measles.**—Although only the first case occurring in the household is notifiable, 382 cases were notified. In 3 instances the diagnosis was not confirmed. To the 379 confirmed cases should be added one case notified as lobar pneumonia and 3 cases notified as scarlet fever. This gives a corrected total of 383 confirmed cases. Thirteen cases were treated in hospital. The majority of cases occurred in the first quarter of the year when 347 cases were recorded. The total 383 shows an increase of 161 over the previous year. There were no deaths.

**Meningitis.**—Twelve cases of this condition were notified during the year, but of these only one was meningococcal in origin. To this one should be added one other case originally notified as suffering from bronchitis. This gives a corrected total of 2 confirmed cases. Both were removed to hospital and died within 48 hours of admission.

One of the originally notified cases was found to be suffering from tuberculous meningitis.

The remaining 10 cases were not confirmed.

**Ophthalmia Neonatorum.**—Three cases were notified. Immediately on receipt of notification, cases are visited by the health visitors.

and treatment, if carried out at home, is supervised daily until recovery.

The health visitors paid 9 visits to cases of this condition.

**Pneumonia.**—(a) Broncho-pneumonia.—Thirty-two cases of this condition were notified during the year, and in 4 instances the diagnosis was not confirmed. This gives a corrected total of 28 cases. Twenty cases occurred in children under 15 years of age.

(b) Lobar pneumonia.—Ninety-five cases of lobar pneumonia were notified. In 18 instances the diagnosis was not confirmed, leaving a total of 77 cases. To this must be added 1 case notified as scarlet fever. This gives a corrected total of 78 confirmed cases. Forty-eight cases were removed to hospital.

(c) Influenzal pneumonia.—One case of influenzal pneumonia was notified during the year.

The number of deaths from pneumonia, excluding influenza, at different age groups is shown as follows:—

Age.	Number.
Under 1 year . . . . .	2
1- 5 years . . . . .	—
5-10 years . . . . .	1
10-15 years . . . . .	—
15-25 years . . . . .	—
25-35 years . . . . .	—
35-45 years . . . . .	1
45-55 years . . . . .	—
55-65 years . . . . .	—
65-75 years . . . . .	6
75-85 years . . . . .	4
85 years and over . . . . .	3
Total . . . . .	17

**Poliomyelitis.**—Seven cases of anterior poliomyelitis were notified during the year. In 6 instances the diagnosis was not confirmed. To the one confirmed case should be added one case notified as cerebro-spinal meningitis. This gives a corrected total of 2 confirmed cases. Both cases were treated in hospital. One of the cases, a Service case, was a polio-encephalitis and died within 24 hours of admission.

**Puerperal Fever.**—One case of puerperal fever was notified during the year and was treated in hospital.

**Scarlet Fever.**—One hundred and ninety-six cases of scarlet fever were notified, but the diagnosis was not confirmed in 23 cases. This gives a corrected total of 173 cases. There was one Service case. All cases were treated in hospital. There were no deaths.

Twenty-one persons who were contacts, and whose employment necessitated the handling of food supplies were temporarily suspended from work whilst awaiting clearance throat swabs.

**Tuberculosis.**—(a) Pulmonary.—The number of cases of pulmonary tuberculosis on the register at the beginning of the year was 267. During the year 40 cases (24 males and 16 females) were notified. Eighteen cases were added to the register from other areas and 6 were re-admitted, 19 left the district, 12 cases were removed from the register, and 6 of the cases on the register died. There thus remained on the register at the end of the year 294 cases. In 12 instances the diagnosis was unconfirmed, giving a corrected figure of 282 confirmed cases (161 males and 121 females).

The total of 40 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis notified during the year compared with 50 for the previous year and 51 for the average of the last 5 years.

The following table shows the number of new cases notified under the various age groups compared with the figures of 1952:—

Age Groups.	Notifications.			
	1952.		1953.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
1- 5 years . . . . .	—	1	2	—
5-15 years . . . . .	8	3	6	3
15-25 years . . . . .	6	10	5	7
25-35 years . . . . .	3	7	3	4
35-45 years . . . . .	4	2	3	1
45-65 years . . . . .	4	1	4	1
65 years and upwards . . . . .	—	1	1	—
Totals . . . . .	25	25	24	16
Both Sexes . . . . .	50		40	

Seven deaths were registered during the year due to pulmonary tuberculosis. The death rate for tuberculosis of the respiratory system was 0.15 per 1000 of the estimated population (both sexes).

(b) Non-Pulmonary.—The number of cases on the register at the beginning of the year was 38. During the year 10 new cases (8

males and 2 females) were notified. Four cases were removed from the register, 4 were transferred out, and 1 case died. There thus remained on the register at the end of the year 39 cases. In one instance the diagnosis was not confirmed, giving a corrected figure of 38 (15 males and 23 females).

The total of 10 cases notified as suffering from non-pulmonary tuberculosis compared with 15 for the previous year and 11 for the average of the last 5 years. There were 2 deaths, one of which was an unnotified case. This gives a death-rate of 0.05 per 1000 population.

The following are the death-rates so far as they are available:—

	Respiratory Tuberculosis.	Other forms of Tuberculosis.	Total.
1916-1920 .. .. .	1.01	0.50	1.51
1921-1925 .. .. .	0.67	0.33	1.00
1926-1930 .. .. .	0.53	0.22	0.75
1931-1935 .. .. .	0.40	0.18	0.58
1936-1940 .. .. .	0.44	0.09	0.53
1941-1945 .. .. .	0.32	0.12	0.44
1946-1950 .. .. .	0.33	0.07	0.40
1951 .. .. .	0.24	0.00	0.24
1952 .. .. .	0.15	0.03	0.18
1953 .. .. .	0.15	0.05	0.20

**Whooping Cough.**—Twenty-seven cases were notified during the year. To the 27 cases should be added one case notified as broncho-pneumonia, making a corrected total of 28 confirmed cases. There was one death. The child was not immunised against the disease and developed broncho-pneumonia.



**Housing conditions and infectious diseases.**—The following table correlates the confirmed infectious disease cases with the size of dwellings:—

Disease.	1 Apartment.	2 Apartments.	3 Apartments.	4 Apartments.	5 Apartments.	6 Apartments.	Over 6 Apts.	Institutions.	Totals.
Cerebro-spinal fever . . . . .	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Chickenpox . . . . .	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	6	6
Dysentery . . . . .	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	8	11
Erysipelas . . . . .	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	2
Erysipelas . . . . .	—	1	7	5	1	—	—	—	14
Measles . . . . .	2	65	98	205	10	1	1	1	383
Ophthalmia neonatorum . . . . .	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Pneumonia, broncho . . . . .	—	7	3	17	1	—	—	—	28
Pneumonia, influenzal . . . . .	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia, lobar . . . . .	—	11	29	28	3	2	1	4	78
Poliomyelitis . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
Puerperal fever . . . . .	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Scarlet fever . . . . .	1	17	70	59	12	4	3	7	173
Tuberculosis, pulmonary . . . . .	—	4	9	18	1	—	—	8	40
Tuberculosis, non-pulmonary . . . . .	—	—	2	4	—	—	1	3	10
Whooping cough . . . . .	—	4	6	18	—	—	—	—	28
Totals . . . . .	3	110	225	363	28	7	7	33	776

The figures in black denote the number of Service cases.

**Laboratory services.**—These services are undertaken by the Central Laboratory at Cameron Bridge Hospital with the exception of Wassermann tests and animal inoculations, which are undertaken by the Bacteriology Department University College, Dundee.

Specimens for the Central Laboratory are collected daily by their own mobile van.

**Treatment and Isolation.**—**West Fife Infectious Diseases Hospital.**—By arrangement between Dunfermline Town Council and the South-Eastern Regional Hospital Board, the Medical Officer of Health acts as Medical Superintendent, and the clinical duties of the hospital are undertaken by the medical members of the Health Department Staff.

The position therefore remains as it was prior to the National Health Service Act, so that in effect the admission of patients suffering from acute infections remains in the hands of the preventive

authority. This is an important feature, for the hospital is a place in and from which a great deal of preventive work can be carried out in relation to the observation of contacts and immunisation. The medical officers working in the field have the daily stimulus of contact with patients while under treatment in hospital, a very important feature, in particular for the individual officers concerned and in general for the future of the preventive health service.

Of the 1,030 patients treated in the West Fife Infectious Diseases Hospital, 449 (which includes 19 Service cases) were from Dunfermline, and the following table shows the distribution of the various diseases:—

	In Hospital 1/1/53.	Admitted during year.	Total.
(a) Civilian Cases:—			
Anterior poliomyelitis . . . .	—	1	1
Cerebro-spinal fever . . . .	—	2	2
Chickenpox . . . . .	—	5	5
Dysentery . . . . .	1	2	3
Erysipelas . . . . .	—	7	7
Gastro-enteritis . . . . .	—	17	17
Measles . . . . .	—	13	13
Miscellaneous . . . . .	2	77	79
Mumps . . . . .	—	2	2
Pneumonia, broncho . . . .	1	28	29
Pneumonia, lobar . . . .	2	46	48
Pneumonia virus . . . . .	—	1	1
Puerperal fever . . . . .	—	1	1
Rubella . . . . .	—	6	6
Scarlet fever . . . . .	7	172	179
Tuberculosis, pulmonary . .	12	22	34
Tuberculosis, non-pulmonary	—	1	1
Whooping cough . . . . .	—	2	2
(b) Service Cases:—			
Anterior poliomyelitis . . . .	—	1	1
Chickenpox . . . . .	—	6	6
Miscellaneous . . . . .	—	9	9
Mumps . . . . .	—	1	1
Rubella . . . . .	—	1	1
Scarlet fever . . . . .	—	1	1
Totals . . . . .	25	424	449

### MENTAL HEALTH.

There are two Duly Authorised Officers. The Town Council does not employ psychiatric social workers, nor is an occupation centre provided.

The Physician Superintendent of the Fife Mental Hospital Board and his staff hold a psychiatric clinic once a week at the West Fife

Infectious Diseases Hospital, where they are available for consultation and advice.

The authorised officers supervise patients on trial or on licence and grant maintenance allowances as agents for the hospital board

No duties have been delegated to voluntary associations.

The assistant medical officers are sent in rotation to a Course on Educationally Sub-normal Children and Mental Defectives organised by the National Association for Mental Health.

Mental defectives are ascertained through the child welfare and school medical services. Non-educable defectives after certification are referred back by the Education Authority. Supervision of defectives is carried out by the health visitors, who are also school nurses, and by the authorised officers. The latter made 130 domiciliary visits to mental defectives during the year.

The authorised officers made arrangements for the certification and removal of 25 patients to Stratheden Mental Hospital in the course of the year. They also made arrangements for the voluntary admission of patients to mental hospitals in a number of instances. Fourteen certified patients died in hospital during the year, 12 were discharged "recovered," and 13 "relieved." The total number in hospital at the end of the year was 115.

The following table shows the age-groups of patients admitted:—

Age.	Males.	Females.	Total.
16 years—60 years . . . . .	8	5	13
60 years and over . . . . .	7	5	12
Totals . . . . .	15	10	25

At the close of the year there were 47 mental defectives on the register; 14 were under guardianship and 33 were in institutions. Two mental defectives belonging to other authorities and 7 uncertified cases were also under supervision. Maintenance and clothing allowances were paid to those under guardianship, and they received quarterly visits from the Certifying Officers as authorised medical officers by the General Board of Control.



## Mental Defectives in Institutions.

Institution.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Royal Scottish National, Larbert, Waverley Park, Kirkintilloch ..	6	4	10
Blinkbonny, Falkirk .. . . .	—	1	1
Gogarburn .. . . .	—	4	4
Strathore .. . . .	4	2	6
St Joseph's, Rosewell .. . . .	4	4	8
	2	2	4
Totals .. . . .	16	17	33

No occupation centre is provided and there are no arrangements for training of defectives.

### Work under Nurseries and Child-Minders' Regulation Act.

No applications for registration were received during the year.

## SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES.

Number of school children in Dunfermline—7,939.

School Medical Inspections were carried out on the usual lines.

Table I. shows the numbers examined, and Table II. shows the defects found. Table III. is a classification of defects by age groups in order of severity.

TABLE I.

#### A. SYSTEMATIC EXAMINATIONS.

Number of Children Examined.

	Boys.	Girls.
Entrants .. . . .	480	476
Second age group .. . . .	338	406
Third age group .. . . .	373	240
Fourth age group .. . . .	56	48
Totals .. . . .	1,247	1,170

#### B. OTHER EXAMINATIONS.

	Boys.	Girls.
Special cases .. . . .	222	197
Re-inspections .. . . .	64	57
Non-routines .. . . .	78	72
Vision group .. . . .	553	489
Totals .. . . .	917	815

Number of individual children inspected at systematic examinations who were notified to parents as requiring treatment excluding uncleanness and dental caries:—

	Boys.	Girls.
Entrants .. . . .	91	97
Second age group .. . . .	50	32
Third age group .. . . .	43	46
Fourth age group .. . . .	—	5
Other systematic examinations .. . . .	—	—
Totals .. . . .	184	180

Number of School Medical Inspection Sessions .. . . .	206
Health Visitors' Inspection Sessions .. . . .	325
Refraction Clinics (Specialist) .. . . .	34
Number of Diphtheria Immunisation Sessions at Schools .. . . .	37
Vision Testing Sessions .. . . .	29



TABLE II.—Systematic Examinations (Continued).

Nature of Defect.	Entrants.		Second age group.		Third age group.		Fourth age group.	
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
8. Eyes—								
(a) External diseases:								
Blepharitis . . . . .	10	14	8	10	6	5	1	—
Conjunctivitis . . . . .	—	3	1	1	—	1	—	—
Corneal Opacities . . . . .	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Strabismus . . . . .	11	14	9	6	7	2	—	—
Other diseases . . . . .	1	2	2	3	1	1	—	—
(b) Visual acuity—								
6/6 . . . . .	—	—	278	335	333	203	47	44
6/9—6/12 . . . . .	—	—	45	54	30	29	7	4
6/18 and over . . . . .	—	—	6	9	8	7	1	—
Number with glasses . . . . .	—	—	15	20	8	11	8	6
Recommended for refraction . . . . .	1	—	20	27	25	23	3	6
9. Ears—								
(a) Diseases:								
Otorrhoea . . . . .	3	4	4	3	2	4	—	—
Other diseases . . . . .	23	39	12	12	17	15	8	1
(b) Defective hearing:								
Grade I. . . . .	4	1	—	—	2	1	—	—
Grade II. a . . . . .	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
Grade II. b . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Grade III. . . . .	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10. Speech—								
Defective articulation . . . . .	14	5	4	4	1	3	—	—
Stammering . . . . .	—	—	1	—	5	1	—	—
11. Mental and nervous condition—								
(a) Backward (due to irregular attendances, etc.),	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
(b) Dull (intrinsically) . . . . .	3	—	3	3	6	2	1	—
(c) Mentally defective (educable) . . . . .	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
(d) Mentally defective (ineducable) . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(e) Highly nervous or unstable . . . . .	11	13	5	3	4	—	1	—
(f) Difficult in behaviour . . . . .	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE II.—Systematic Examinations (Continued).

Nature of Defect.	Entrants.		Second age group.		Third age group.		Fourth age group.	
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
12. Circulatory system—								
(a) Organic heart disease:								
(1) Congenital . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—
(2) Acquired . . . . .	—	1	—	1	1	1	—	—
(b) Functional conditions . . . . .	7	11	9	6	5	—	—	—
13. Lungs—								
Chronic bronchitis . . . . .	3	5	1	—	1	1	—	—
Suspected tuberculosis . . . . .	3	4	4	1	3	1	—	—
Other diseases . . . . .	16	10	2	3	5	2	1	1
14. Deformities—								
(a) Congenital . . . . .	22	12	18	3	12	5	1	4
(b) Acquired (infantile paralysis) . . . . .	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	1
(c) Acquired (probable rickets) . . . . .	8	4	3	2	4	4	—	—
(d) Acquired (other causes) . . . . .	46	41	26	38	41	32	11	6
15. Infectious diseases . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16. Other diseases or defects . . . . .	36	26	24	34	17	12	4	1
17. Diphtheria Immunisations . . . . .	461	442	321	390	349	230	51	48
18. Vaccinations . . . . .	374	331	252	291	264	177	47	44
19. Parents present . . . . .	378	373	177	229	19	16	—	2
20. Refusals . . . . .			3 Boys and 3 Girls.					

TABLE III.—Systematic Examinations.

Classification.	Entrants.					Second age-group.			Third age-group.			Fourth age-group.			Total.
	No. of Children.	Percentage of the children examined in this group.	No. of Children.	Percentage of the children examined in this group.	No. of Children.	Percentage of the children examined in this group.	No. of Children.	Percentage of the children examined in this group.	No. of Children.	Percentage of the children examined in this group.	No. of Children.	Percentage of the children examined in this group.	No. of Children.	Percentage of the children examined in this group.	
1. Children free from defects . . . .	251	26.3	237	31.9	290	47.3	48	45.6	826	34.2					
2. Children (otherwise free from defects) who suffer from—															
(a) Defective vision not worse than 6/12 in the better eye with or without glasses or	1	0.1	33	4.4	35	5.7	4	3.9	73	3.0					
(b) Conditions of the mouth and teeth requiring treatment . . . .	71	7.4	66	8.9	30	4.9	3	2.9	170	7.0					
(c) Both (a) and (b) . . . . .	1	0.1	7	0.9	4	0.7	—	—	12	0.5					
Totals . . . . .	73	7.6	106	14.2	69	11.3	7	6.8	255	10.5					
3 Children suffering from ailments (other than those mentioned in 2) from which complete recovery is anticipated within a few weeks	536	56.1	335	45.0	203	33.1	37	35.9	1,111	46.0					
4. Children suffering from (or suspected to be suffering from) defects less remediable than defects specified in 2 or 3 distinguishing cases—															
(a) where complete cure or restoration of function (in the case of eye defect, full correction) is considered possible . . . . .	88	9.2	65	8.8	42	6.8	10	9.8	205	8.5					
(b) where improvement only is considered possible, e.g., without complete restoration of function . . . . .	8	0.8	1	0.1	9	1.5	2	1.9	20	0.8					
Totals . . . . .	96	10.0	66	8.9	51	8.3	12	11.7	225	9.3					
Total number of children examined,	956	100	744	100	613	100	103	100	2,416	100					



**Nutrition.**—Of the 2,416 school children examined during the year, 228 or 9.4 per cent. were found to suffer from slight nutritional defect, and 2 or 0.08 per cent. from more marked nutritional defect.

**Attendance of Parents.**—A notice of the forthcoming medical inspection is sent to the parents of each child and they are invited to attend. Their attendance is very much in the child's interest, as it enables the doctor to ascertain precise details of past illnesses and family history. Should treatment of any condition be required, personal explanation is more satisfactory than any written notice and more likely to be effective. During the year parents have continued to co-operate in this way, especially in the more junior age groups.

It is unfortunately true, however, that on the whole we do not see the parents of the children who are most in need of attention. The careful mother of the well-cared for child attends, and has the satisfaction of learning that all is well. When a child's condition is less satisfactory it is very often found that lack of parental interest extends to school medical inspection and opportunity for discussion is not afforded.

Of 956 entrant infants examined, 751 were accompanied by parents, and of 1,461 other children examined, parents were present in 443 instances.

**Refusal of Medical Inspection.**—The number of refusals was again a negligible percentage of the number of children examined. There were, in all, 6 refusals, representing 0.24 per cent.

**Health Visitors' Inspections.**—The health visitors carry out inspections of heads and clothing, and where necessary refer cases to the school clinic for treatment. "Follow up" visits were also made to ensure that their suggestions and instructions were being acted upon.

Number of children inspected by health visitors .. .. .	6,614
Number of re-inspections and follow-up visits .. .. .	24,763
Number of homes visited .. .. .	135

**Treatment.**—During the year the Medical Officer of Health continued to be responsible for the treatment of school children, under the arrangement made with the Carnegie Dunfermline Trust and Dunfermline Town Council. The medical aspect of the work was undertaken by the medical members of the Health Department staff.

I take this opportunity of conveying to the members of the Carnegie Dunfermline Trust staff engaged in this work my cordial thanks and appreciation for their help and co-operation.

### General Clinic.

	No. of Cases.	No. of Attendances.
Defective speech . . . . .	22	408
Ear, nose and throat . . . . .	540	1,053
Eye . . . . .	261	642
Orthopædic . . . . .	477	3,497
Other conditions . . . . .	2,724	5,891
Skin . . . . .	1,179	3,937
U.V.R. treatment . . . . .	99	2,049
Totals . . . . .	5,302	17,477

### Dental Clinic.

Dental inspections . . . . .	2,258
No. of cases . . . . .	3,220
No. of attendances . . . . .	4,555

**Specialist Clinics.**—(a) **Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic.**—Ten specialist clinics were held during the year, at which 173 school children were seen by the Consultant.

(b) **Ophthalmic Clinic.**—Ophthalmic treatment of school children was carried out by the Consultant. The report of the year's work in this clinic is shown in the following table:—

Number of clinics . . . . .	34			
	No. of cases examined.		No. of cases re-examined.	
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
Hypermetropia . . . . .	20	16	20	16
Hypermetropic astigmatism . . . . .	30	25	43	53
Myopia . . . . .	13	14	21	14
Myopic astigmatism . . . . .	9	8	8	19
Mixed astigmatism . . . . .	5	5	5	5
Emmetropia . . . . .	18	15	7	6
External eye conditions . . . . .	1	—	—	—
Totals . . . . .	96	83	104	113
Both Sexes . . . . .	179		217	
Frames fitted . . . . .	84 boys and 78 girls.			

(c) **Orthopaedic Clinic.**—Ten specialist clinics were held during the year, at which 210 school children were seen by the Consultant.

**Co-operation of Teachers.**—Headmasters and teachers continued to co-operate and proved very helpful in referring ailing children for examination. Their interest and assistance are invaluable and greatly facilitate the work of school medical inspection.

**Medical Examination of Mentally Defective Children.**—Six mentally defective children were medically examined and special reports submitted to the Fife County Medical Officer.

### **PORT HEALTH ADMINISTRATION.**

The arrangements made under the Port Sanitary Regulations (Scotland), 1933 and 1945, were satisfactory.

A total of three ships arrived at Rosyth from foreign ports and all were granted pratique.

## APPENDIX I.

Infant deaths classssified according to age groups and causes of death

Causes of Death.		Under 1 week.	1 week and under 4 weeks.	4 weeks and under 3 months.	3 months and under 6 months.	6 months and under 12 months.	Total deaths under 1 year.
All Causes	Certified .. . . .	9	3	9	4	3	28
	Uncertified.. . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—
Prematurity and atelectasis .. . . .		1	—	—	—	—	1
Chill. Infantile convulsions .. . . .		—	—	—	1	—	1
Asphyxia (accidental) .. . . .		—	—	1	2	1	4
Broncho-pneumonia .. . . .		1	—	2	—	—	3
Pneumonia. Pulmonary abscesses.							
Emphysema .. . . .		—	—	—	1	—	1
Congenital heart disease. Transposition of great vessels .. . . .		—	—	1	—	—	1
Pulmonary hæmorrhage .. . . .		1	—	—	—	—	1
Cerebro-spinal meningitis 2½ days. Acute bronchitis 3 days .. . . .		—	—	—	—	1	1
Spina bifida—hydrocephalus.. . . .		—	—	1	—	—	1
Natural causes. Probably myocarditis.		—	—	1	—	—	1
Congenital cerebral cyst. Atelectasis.							
Multiple cystic disease of left kidney (Post Mortem) .. . . .		—	—	1	—	—	1
Gastro-enteritis. Prematurity .. . . .		—	—	1	—	—	1
Subdural hæmorrhage .. . . .		—	1	—	—	—	1
Icterus gravis neonatorum .. . . .		—	1	—	—	—	1
Prematurity .. . . .		4	—	—	—	—	4
Pulmonary hyaline membrane 2 days.							
Atelectasis 2 days .. . . .		1	—	—	—	—	1
Prematurity. Pulmonary hyaline membrane 1 day .. . . .		1	—	—	—	—	1
Gastro-enteritis. Exhaustion.. . . .		—	—	—	—	1	1
Infantile gastro-enteritis 3 days. Cerebral oedema with convulsions. Terminal asphyxia .. . . .		—	1	—	—	—	1
Cardiac failure due to congenital heart disease .. . . .		—	—	1	—	—	1
Totals .. . . .		9	3	9	4	3	28

## APPENDIX II.

Cases of Infectious Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) notified from  
1st January 1953 to 31st December 1953.

		Number of Cases coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health and accepted by him as suffering from the stated disease.											
		At Age—Years.											
		At all ages	Under 1.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 35.	35 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Cases removed to Hospital.	Cases not removed to Hospital.	
Cerebro-spinal fever	M.	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	
	F.	6	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	6	...	
Chickenpox	M.	7	1	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	7	...	
	F.	4	...	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	4	...	
Dysentery	M.	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	
	F.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Erysipelas	M.	8	...	...	...	1	1	1	4	1	3	5	
	F.	6	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	1	4	2	
Measles	M.	183	1	90	89	...	1	...	2	...	7	176	
	F.	200	3	64	131	...	2	...	...	...	6	194	
Ophthalmia neonatorum	M.	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	
	F.	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Pneumonia, Influenzal	M.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	F.	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	
Pneumonia, Lobar	M.	51	...	3	9	7	6	3	20	3	34	17	
	F.	27	...	3	9	3	1	3	7	1	14	13	
Pneumonia, Broncho	M.	14	5	5	1	...	1	...	...	2	14	...	
	F.	14	4	5	...	...	...	1	...	4	14	...	
		1	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	
Poliomyelitis	M.	2	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	
	F.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Puerperal fever	F.	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	
		1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	
Scarlet fever	M.	91	1	31	56	2	...	1	...	...	91	...	
	F.	82	...	21	58	2	...	1	...	...	82	...	
Whooping cough	M.	18	1	10	7	...	...	...	...	...	2	16	
	F.	10	...	3	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	
		9	...	...	...	8	1	...	...	...	9	...	
TOTALS	M.	380	12	142	163	17	9	5	26	6	164	216	
	F.	346	8	98	206	6	5	7	10	6	125	221	

The figures in black denote Service cases and are included in the totals.



# APPENDIX III.

## TUBERCULOSIS.

### 1. RETURN OF CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 1953.

Number of Cases Notified as Suffering from Tuberculosis. Age Groups.											Cases notified in a previous year and removed to hospital for the first time during 1953.		
		Under 1.	1-5.	5-10.	10-15.	15-25.	25-35.	35-45.	45-65.	65 and upwards.	Total.	Cases removed to hospital.	
Respiratory	Males .. .. .	—	2	5	1	5	3	3	4	1	24	11	5
	Females... .. .	—	—	2	1	7	4	1	1	—	16	5	3
	Totals .. .. .	—	2	7	2	12	7	4	5	1	40	16	8
Non-respiratory	Males .. .. .	—	1	1	1	3	1	—	1	—	8	—	—
	Females... .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	—	—
	Totals .. .. .	—	1	1	1	3	1	2	1	—	10	—	—
Respiratory and Non-respiratory	Males .. .. .	—	3	6	2	8	4	3	5	1	32	11	5
	Females... .. .	—	—	2	1	7	4	3	1	—	18	5	3
Grand Totals .. .. .		—	3	8	3	15	8	6	6	1	50	16	8

## APPENDIX III.—TUBERCULOSIS (Continued).

## 2. RETURN OF CASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR IN WHICH DIAGNOSIS OF TUBERCULOSIS HAS BEEN CONFIRMED.

		Number of Cases Diagnosed as Suffering from Tuberculosis.							Total.
		Under 15.	5-10.	10-15.	Age Groups.			65 and upwards.	
		1.			15-25.	25-35.	35-45.	45-65.	
Respiratory . . . . .	Males . . . . .	—	2	3	1	5	3	4	1 22
	Females . . . . .	—	—	2	1	6	—	1	— 14
	Totals . . . . .	—	2	5	2	11	3	5	1 36
Non-respiratory . . . . .	Males . . . . .	—	1	1	1	3	1	—	— 8
	Females . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	— 2
	Totals . . . . .	—	1	1	1	3	2	1	— 10
Respiratory and non-respiratory.	Males . . . . .	—	3	4	2	8	4	3	5 1 30
	Females . . . . .	—	—	2	1	6	4	2	1 — 16
	Totals . . . . .	—	3	6	3	14	8	5	6 1 46

## APPENDIX III.—TUBERCULOSIS (Continued).

### 3. RETURN SHOWING THE NUMBER OF CASES WITH THE HOME RESIDENCE IN THE AREA WHO RECEIVED TREATMENT IN SANATORIA OR OTHER INSTITUTIONS DURING THE YEAR.

		Number of Patients.				
		In Institutions on 1/1/53.	Admitted during the year.	Discharged during the year.	Died in the Institutions.	In Institutions on 31/12/53.
Respiratory	{ Adults .. .. .					
	{ Males .. .. .	17	22	19	—	20
	{ Females.. .. .	21	11	16	3	13
	{ Children... .. .					
Non-respiratory	{ Males .. .. .	4	3	2	—	5
	{ Females.. .. .	4	1	1	—	4
	{ Adults .. .. .					
	{ Males .. .. .	—	2	1	—	1
Totals	{ Females.. .. .	1	—	1	—	—
	{ Children... .. .					
	{ Males .. .. .	3	2	3	—	2
	{ Females.. .. .	—	1	1	—	—
Totals .. .. .		50	42	44	3	45

#### 4. RETURN OF NUMBER OF PERSONS RESIDENT IN THE AREA AT 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 1953, WHO WERE KNOWN TO BE SUFFERING FROM TUBERCULOSIS.

		Number of Cases in Age-Groups.								Total.	
		Under 1.	1-5.	5-10.	10-15.	15-25.	25-35.	35-45.	45-65.	65 and upwards.	Total.
<b>RESPIRATORY.</b>											
1. Sputum or other material examined and tubercle bacilli found . . . . .	Males . . . . .	—	—	—	2	5	6	5	12	—	30
	Females.. . . .	—	—	—	1	3	10	4	1	—	19
2. Sputum or other material examined and tubercle bacilli never found . . . . .	Males . . . . .	—	—	4	6	10	22	18	21	2	83
	Females.. . . .	—	1	2	3	21	28	8	6	2	71
3. Sputum or other material not examined . . . . .	Males . . . . .	—	1	6	5	13	11	6	6	—	48
	Females.. . . .	—	1	4	3	13	4	3	3	—	31
Totals . . . . .		—	3	16	20	65	81	44	49	4	282
<b>NON-RESPIRATORY.</b>											
1. Abdominal . . . . .	Males . . . . .	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	Females.. . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Spine . . . . .	Males . . . . .	—	2	—	1	1	—	1	—	1	6
	Females.. . . .	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
3. Bones and joints (exclusive of spine) . . . . .	Males . . . . .	—	—	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	4
	Females.. . . .	—	—	—	3	2	—	1	—	—	6
4. Superficial glands . . . . .	Males . . . . .	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
	Females.. . . .	—	—	1	1	3	2	2	3	—	12
5. Lupus . . . . .	Males . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
	Females.. . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	3
6. Other parts or organs . . . . .	Males . . . . .	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2
	Females.. . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Totals . . . . .		—	2	4	5	9	4	6	6	2	38
Respiratory and Non-respiratory Totals . . . . .		—	5	20	25	74	85	50	55	6	320









City and Royal Burgh of Dunfermline

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# ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

GENERAL SANITARY CONDITION OF THE BURGH

FOR THE YEAR

1953

BY

ALEXR. H. DUNCAN, M.R.SAN.I., M.INST.P.C., M.I.T.A.,

*Chief Sanitary Inspector and Inspector of Cleansing.*

Sanitary Inspector's Office,  
35 Queen Anne Street,  
Dunfermline,

30th August 1954.

*To the Department of Health for Scotland,  
and the Provost, Magistrates, and Councillors  
of the City and Royal Burgh of Dunfermline.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the general sanitary condition of the Burgh and of the work performed by the Sanitary and Cleansing Departments during the year 1953.

This report has been compiled in accordance with the terms of D.H.S. Circular No. 83/1953.

### STATISTICS.

Area of Burgh in Acres . . . . .	7,674
Miles of Streets, etc. . . . .	61.38
Population (Census 1951) . . . . .	44,710
Population (estimated at end of year) . . . . .	45,300
Number of Inhabited Houses . . . . .	13,033
Gross Valuation . . . . .	£456,653
Net Rateable Value . . . . .	£401,662
Sum represented by 1d. Rate—Owner . . . . .	£1,663
Occupier . . . . .	1,657
	<hr/>
	£3,320

## **GENERAL SANITATION.**

### **WATER SUPPLY :**

The water main at Green Street, Townhill, was renewed, 125 lineal yards of 3 inch asbestos cement pipe being inserted, while 136 lineal yards of 2 inch asbestos cement pipes were laid in the Public Park, Rosyth.

There was also an extension of the work mentioned last year at the Aberdour Road Housing Scheme where 194 lineal yards of 4 inch spun iron pipe were laid in the second development and 308 lineal yards of 3 inch spun iron pipes, 1,308 lineal yards of 4 inch spun iron pipe and 923 lineal yards of 6 inch spun iron pipe were laid at the Third Development Stage " B," while 866 lineal yards of 4 inch spun iron pipe and 462 lineal yards of 6 inch spun iron pipe were laid at the Fourth Development.

The quantity of water in storage at 31st December 1953 was 194,277,000 gallons, of which 153,141,000 gallons were in Glensherup Reservoir and 41,136,000 gallons were in Craigluscar Reservoir. The water from both reservoirs is chlorinated and is satisfactory in quality and sufficient in quantity.

The average consumption per head per day was (a) Domestic purposes (unmetered) 40.02 gallons, and (b) Trade purposes (metered) 16.91 gallons, a total of 56.93 gallons.

One complaint was received relative to inadequacy of supply or pressure, and a notice was served under the Water (Scotland) Act, 1946, requiring a more adequate supply of water to the property. It was discovered that the lack of supply was caused by a reducer valve on the service pipe, and this defect was soon remedied.

### **DRAINAGE :**

Forty-five complaints were received during the year regarding choked and defective drains, and the necessary remedial measures were effected by the owners on receipt of verbal and written intimations.

Two hundred and seventy-one smoke tests and one hundred and fifteen colour tests were applied to the drains of new and existing property.

At the Headwell Scheme, fifty lineal yards of 6 inch pipe was laid to convey storm water, while 217 lineal yards of 9 inch pipe was

laid at Aberdour Road Scheme for a similar purpose. There were also 23 lineal yards of 12 inch pipe and 28 lineal yards of 15 inch pipe laid at the Third Development "B," and 320 lineal yards of 6 inch pipe, 1,327 lineal yards of 9 inch pipe, and 45 lineal yards of 12 inch pipe at the Fourth Development of the Aberdour Road Scheme.

The duplication of the Lyne Burn Sewer progressed quite satisfactorily despite the fact that adverse ground conditions, particularly in the tunnel section in Elgin Street, were encountered at the beginning of the year.

The new storm water relief sewer proceeded apace, excellent progress being maintained, the main work, namely, the laying of 1,850 lineal yards of 72 inch concrete pipes being completed in September, while the reinstatement laying of leader tiles and other ancillary works was being undertaken at the latter end of the year.

## SEWAGE PURIFICATION AND DISPOSAL :

There was no evidence of nuisance being caused by the method of sewage disposal in operation within the Burgh, namely, by means of outfall sewers discharging into the Forth Estuary at two points.

## SANITARY CONVENIENCES :

The number of dry closets, etc., in the Burgh is:—

Dry closets .. .. .	15
Chemical closets .. .. .	16
No sanitary accommodation .. .. .	2
Ashpits .. .. .	13

The incidence of water closets used in common is as shown in the following table:—

Common W.C's.	Ward I.	Ward II.	D'line	Ward III. Kingsseat	Townhill	Ward IV.	Ward V.	Ward VI.	Ward VII.	Total.
Families										
1 for 2	115	103	23	17	24	75	50	33	—	440
1 „ 3	72	39	8	5	13	29	12	34	—	212
1 „ 4	33	14	7	—	9	25	9	12	—	109
1 „ 5	2	8	—	—	1	9	3	—	—	23
1 „ 6	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3
Totals ...	222	166	38	22	47	139	74	79	—	787

There were fourteen additional water closets provided during the year.



## OUTSIDE WATER SUPPLY :

As the result of the closure of unfit houses and the improvement of others, the incidence of houses not provided with an inside water supply is now as follows:—

Supply Outside Building.						Supply Inside Building.					
Wards.	1 for 1	1 for 2	1 for 3	1 for 4	Houses.	1 for 1	1 for 2	1 for 3	1 for 4	Houses.	Total.
I. ..	—	2	—	—	4	2	6	—	—	14	18
II. ..	1	1	—	1	7	2	1	1	—	7	14
III. ..	—	1	—	—	2	1	2	—	—	5	7
IV. ..	1	2	—	—	5	5	14	3	—	42	47
V. ..	—	2	—	—	4	—	3	—	—	6	10
VI. ..	2	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	1	3
VII. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ..	4	8	—	1	24	11	26	4	—	75	99

## LACK OF CLEANLINESS IN COMMON WATER CLOSETS :

It was found necessary to serve four notices on tenants calling upon them to keep common W.C.'s in a proper state of cleanliness.

The existence of twenty-four defects in water closets was intimated to the owners concerned, and subsequent inspections served to show that the necessary repairs had been effected.

## WASH-HOUSE BYE-LAWS :

Notices were served upon five owners intimating the existence of structural defects in wash-houses, and as a result of subsequent re-inspections it was observed that these defects were receiving attention. Two dilapidated wash-houses were pulled down and rebuilt.

## RIVERS POLLUTION :

Three complaints were received during the year regarding the pollution of waterways, two of which related to streams into which garden refuse had been deposited by nearby tenants, and in both these cases the refuse was removed while warnings were given to the tenants concerned. The other complaint concerned the damming of a stream by an old motor chassis, the owner of which was traced and the chassis removed.

## OFFENSIVE TRADES :

The only Offensive Trades carried on within the Burgh are Tripe Dressing, Gut Scraping, and the Slaughtering of Cattle, all of which



The following tabulated statement was submitted to the Ministry of Labour and National Service, viz.:—

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Acts, Form 573 (Revised) (Scotland).

i.—INSPECTIONS.

PREMISES	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	No. of Written Notices	No. of Occupiers Prosecuted
(I.) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities,	22	4	—	—
(II.) Factories not included in (I) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority . . . .	169	89	8	—
(III.) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) . . . . .	29	34	—	—
Total . . . . .	220	127	8	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Number of cases in which defects were found.

PARTICULARS	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	Number of Cases in which Prosecutions were instituted
Want of cleanliness . . . . .	29	24	—	—	—
Overcrowding . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors . . . .	2	2	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences—					
(a) Insufficient . . . . .	2	2	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective . . . .	3	1	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes . . . .	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork) . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—
Total . . . . .	36	29	—	—	—

## HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS:

Fifty-three visits of inspection were made to the premises in Chapel Street used as Houses Let in Lodgings, when it was found necessary to issue two written and fourteen verbal intimations regarding certain unsatisfactory conditions therein.

## LODGING HOUSES:

Thirty-two visits of inspection were made to the only remaining Lodging House in the town, and seven verbal warnings were issued relative to minor defects.



## TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS :

At the end of the year there were only two caravans remaining within the Burgh, and both of these have a water supply and suitable sanitary accommodation.

In March the "Shows" visited St. Leonard's Showground, when there were twenty-six caravans housing thirty-two adult males, thirty-five adult females, eleven boys, and six girls.

In July the "Shows" visited Rosyth Fairground, Aberlour Street, when there were ten caravans housing eight adult males, twelve adult females, seven boys, and one girl.

All the caravans at these two sites were inspected and found to be in a clean condition, while the sanitary accommodation and water supply were satisfactory. Refuse and kitchen waste were regularly removed by the Cleansing Department.

## THE PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949 :

In compliance with request from Department of Agriculture for Scotland, the following report was submitted, viz.:—

### PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949 (PART I.).

#### RATS AND MICE.

*Report for Year 1st January—31st December 1953.*

#### 1. *Local Authority's Control Organisation for the Purposes of the Act.*

The Control Organisation is still as mentioned last year, namely, The Health Committee have been delegated to exercise the Town Council's responsibilities in this matter, while the administrative work has been placed on the Sanitary Department.

#### 2. *General Directions or Decisions of the Local Authority as to the Work of the Control Organisation.*

The surveys are carried out by a qualified Sanitary Inspector, who advises the occupier and/or owner of the infested property regarding the measures, including rat proofing, which must be undertaken, not only to clear the infestation but also to prevent a recurrence of same.

#### 3. *Measures taken for the Discovery, Prevention, and Control of Rats and Mice in the Local Authority's Area.*

The measures initiated include surveys and inspection of buildings, treatment of sewers, streams, refuse coups, etc.

#### 4. *Measures taken regarding Properties specially liable to infestation in the Local Authority's Area.*

Similar measures to those instituted in former years were taken, including the reminding of owners of factories, grain mills, food premises, etc., of their responsibilities and duties and, in addition, farmers, threshing mill owners and operators were advised relative to their obligations.

#### 5. *Action (if any) taken under the Prevention of Damage by Pests (Application to Shipping) Order, 1951.*

None.

#### 6. *General.*

There were no serious infestations nor difficulties encountered during the period under review.



## TYPE OF PROPERTY.

	Local Authority Properties	Dwelling Houses	Business or Industrial Premises	Agricul. tural Properties	Total
1. Number of properties inspected by Local Authority during 1953 as a result of notification or otherwise (see Notes below) . . . . .	10	75	26	1	112
2. Number of above properties found to be infested by rats or mice . . . . .	10	70	25	1	106
3. Number of above infested properties cleared to the satisfaction of the Local Authority:—					
(I.) As separate units . . . . .	10	68	25	1	104
(II.) In course of "block" operations carried out under Section 6(1) or under informal arrangements . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—
Total . . . . .	10	68	25	1	104
4. Number of notices served under Section 4:—					
(I.) Treatment . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—
(II.) Works . . . . .	—	1	—	—	1
Total . . . . .	—	1	—	—	1
5. Number of cases in which default action was taken by Local Authority following issue of notice under Section 4 . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—
6. Number of notices issued under Section 6(2) . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—
7. Number of ships treated . . . . .	Nil.				
8. Number of Rodent Control Certificates issued . . . . .	Nil.				

During the year the undernoted premises were dealt with and the following number of rats and mice destroyed:—

Abbatoir . . . . .	1	Parks and Open Spaces . . . . .	1
Bakeries . . . . .	1	Picture Houses . . . . .	1
Coups . . . . .	4	Public Houses . . . . .	1
Cafe . . . . .	1	Railway Property . . . . .	2
Dwellinghouses . . . . .	75	Schools . . . . .	4
Factories . . . . .	3	Sewers . . . . .	5
Farms . . . . .	1	Shops . . . . .	10
Garages and Workshops . . . . .	1	Stables . . . . .	1
Hotels . . . . .	1	Streams . . . . .	3
Institutions . . . . .	2	Yards . . . . .	2
Laundries . . . . .	1		
Total number of premises . . . . .			115
Number of rats trapped . . . . .			46
Number of rats poisoned . . . . .			750
Number of rats gassed . . . . .			19
Total number of rats destroyed . . . . .			815
Number of mice trapped . . . . .			496
Number of mice poisoned . . . . .			189
Total number of mice destroyed . . . . .			685
Total number of visits to premises . . . . .			1,113



## **PEST INFESTED HOUSES :**

Thirty-four complaints were received regarding the existence of pests in houses. The majority of these complaints related to furniture beetles in floors, skirting boards and furniture, while fleas, beetles, snails, and midges were the causes of others. These were all successfully eradicated by the proper application of the appropriate insecticide.

## **PUBLIC BATHS :**

The Public Baths and District Institutes were regularly inspected and found to be efficiently administered and supervised by Mr James Allan, Superintendent, and his staff.

During the year four samples for bacteriological examination and six for chemical analysis were taken from the Swimming Pool, Carnegie Baths, and all were reported satisfactory.

Two samples of water, one for chemical analysis and one for bacteriological examination, were taken from each of the Paddling Pools at Rosyth Public Park and Townhill, both being reported satisfactory.

## **ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION :**

Nine complaints were received relative to the excessive emission of smoke from the chimneys of factories and other premises, and following observations, eight written and twenty-four verbal intimations were issued. Apart from these complaints action, necessitating sixty-two visits, was taken regarding smoke nuisances from various premises, including factories, offices, shops, greenhouses, cinemas and halls, all of which add their quota to the general pollution of the atmosphere.

The amount of smoke emitted from locomotives also gives cause for complaint, and in one instance the crew of a railway engine was reported to the appropriate authority for firing the engine while it was standing at the station.

Another complaint was received concerning the deposition of grit in Townhill and the cause was found, on investigation, to be due to the fact that two steel chimneys at the Power Station had been blown down during a gale. These two chimneys and a brick one, still intact, served the nine boilers at this Generating Station, and following an approach to the British Electricity Authority one chimney was replaced before the end of the year, while work was proceeding on the other.

As a result of further complaints regarding an alleged smoke nuisance at the laundry premises in Halbeath Road, it was arranged on the suggestion of Dr E. A. B. Birse, Chief Alkali Inspector, Department of Health for Scotland, who visited the locus, and the principal complainer, to conduct a deposit survey, spread over a period of four months, the result of which was sent to Dr Birse.

In his report, Dr Birse states that:—"A good proportion of the deposits may come from the direction of the town, and, indeed, looking at the results in a broad manner, there is nothing in them to suggest that the laundry chimney normally predominates as a contributor to the deposits." He also suggested that the nearby railway, including the Loco Sheds, is responsible for some of this deposit.

These facts were in due course reported to the Health Committee and the Department of Health for Scotland.

The problem of atmospheric pollution has been receiving much more publicity as a result of the London smog disaster of December 1952, when in the following two weeks 4,000 deaths had been caused by the four-day fog. It is to be earnestly hoped that the interest stimulated by this tragedy and the subsequent appointment of the Beaver Committee may eventually result in the promulgation of a policy and line of action more realistically related to the actual position.

### PIGGERIES:

There are now two piggeries in the Burgh and six visits of inspection were made to ensure that the premises were kept in a clean and sanitary condition.

### FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT, 1926:

Eight samples were taken during the year under the above Act and submitted to the Public Analyst with the following results:—

No. of Samples Taken.	Nature.	Conform.	Non-Conform.
1	Balancer Meal.	1	—
1	Liquid Manure.	1	—
1	Sulphate of Potash.	1	—
1	Potato Fertiliser.	1	—
1	National Fertiliser.	1	—
1	Chrysanthemum Fertiliser.	1	—
1	Hen Battery Pellets.	1	—
1	Hen Layers Mash.	1	—

## **RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951 :**

The premises of one furniture manufacturer were registered under this Act during the year, and inspections revealed that the necessary records were being kept as required by the Rag Flock Regulations.

Two samples, one of Rag Flock and one of Coir Fibre, were taken and submitted to the Public Analyst, who reported that both conformed to the requirements of the Act.

## **PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951:**

Four licences were granted during the year in respect of premises used for the keeping of pets. Nine visits of inspection were made to these premises which were found to be in order.

## **SHOPS ACT, 1950 :**

One hundred and fifty-three inspections were made during the year, and eleven written and thirty-seven verbal intimations were issued.

In five shops additional sanitary accommodation was provided, and in two others washing facilities were provided.

Four shopkeepers were warned for failure to observe the legal closing hours and four for failure to observe the weekly half-holiday.

The attention of shopkeepers was drawn in seven cases to the defective or dirty condition of the W.C.'s, while four shopkeepers were warned about the dirty condition of back shops. One warning was given to a shopkeeper for failure to provide seats for female shop assistants, and four were given to shopkeepers who failed to keep the necessary records.

Nineteen shopkeepers were warned for failure to provide towels, soap, and nailbrushes in food shops.

## **PLACES OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT :**

Eight visits of inspection were made to cinemas, public halls, dance halls, etc., when the sanitary accommodation, in addition to being clean, was found to be both suitable and sufficient. In one hall licensed for dancing extra urinal accommodation has been provided and plans are being prepared for an increase in the accommodation provided for ladies.

One complaint was received during the year regarding the condition of sanitary accommodation in a cinema, but this was found to be unjustified.

Two series of Kata-Thermometer Tests were carried out in a cinema in order to test the efficiency of ventilation.

### **BURGH POLICE (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1892 :**

The following action was taken under the undernoted Sections of the above Act:—

#### **Section 115 :**

Four notices were served upon the occupiers of premises requesting them to arrange that the common W.C.'s be kept clean in weekly rotation.

#### **Section 117 :**

Twenty-seven notices were issued to owners requesting them to whitewash or paint such structures as required by the Act.

#### **Section 164 :**

Fourteen notices were sent to owners or factors intimating the existence of defective rain water fittings at their properties.

### **HEATING APPLIANCES (FIREGUARDS) ACT, 1952 :**

The above Act, described as “An Act to prohibit the sale or letting of certain heating appliances without an effective fireguard and for purposes connected therewith” came into force on 1st October 1953, and the Chief Sanitary Inspector was appointed as the Authorised Officer.

Five types of electric fires were tested and found to comply with all the tests laid down in the Regulations.

### **INFECTIOUS DISEASES :**

During the year investigations, reports, disinfections, and fumigations were carried out in connection with the following infectious diseases notifications, viz.:—

Scarlet Fever .. .. .	181
Observation Scarlet Fever .. .. .	3
Tuberculosis (Removals) .. .. .	34
Tuberculosis (Deaths) .. .. .	2
Observation Diphtheria .. .. .	1
Observations Poliomyelitis .. .. .	5

The details of the work performed by the Sanitary Department in the prevention of the spread of infectious diseases are shown in Appendix II of this Report.



## HOUSING.

The work as reported hereunder was performed under the various Acts relating to housing, viz.:—

### HOUSING (INSPECTION OF DISTRICT) REGULATIONS (SCOTLAND), 1928.

1. Number of dwellinghouses inspected :—
  - (a) During the year . . . . . 353
  - (b) Since 1st January 1931 (including (a)) . . . . . 12,031

*Note:*—In addition, 704 houses were re-inspected during the year.

2. Number of dwellinghouses which on inspection were considered to be in any respect unfit for human habitation :—
  - (a) During the year . . . . . 98
  - (b) Since 1st January 1931 . . . . . 1,677

### BURGH POLICE (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1892.

3. Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notice was given during the year under Section 246 requiring provision of a sufficient water closet . . . . . Nil.
4. Number of dwellinghouses where requirements were complied with by owners during the year . . . . . Nil.
5. Number of dwellinghouses where work was carried out by the Town Council during the year after failure of owners to do so . . . . . Nil.
6. Number of dwellinghouses for which water closets were provided during the year at instance of the Town Council without notice under Section 246 . . . . . 16

### WATER (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1946.

7. Number of houses in respect of which notice was given during the year under Section 54 of the Water (Scotland) Act, 1946, requiring provision of inside water supply and sink . . . . . Nil.
8. Number of houses in which requirements were complied with by owners during the year . . . . . Nil.
9. Number of houses in which work was carried out by the Town Council during the year after failure of owners to do so . . . . . Nil.
10. Number of houses in which inside water supply and sink were provided during the year at instance of Town Council without notice under Section 54 . . . . . 3

### HOUSING (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1950.

The Housing (Scotland) Act, 1950, reproduces in consolidated form without amendment, the law contained in the former Housing (Scotland) Acts, 1925 to 1949, and in certain other enactments relating to housing in Scotland.

11. Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served during the year under Section 7 (1) . . . . . Nil.
12. Number of dwellinghouses rendered fit for human habitation during the year following on notices under Section 7 (1) . . . . . Nil.
13. Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which work was carried out during the year by the Town Council under Section 8 (1) (2) . . . . . Nil.
14. Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which in terms of Section 10 a Demolition Order or Closing Order under Section 9 (4) has been substituted during the year for a notice under Section 7 (1) . . . . . Nil.
15. Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served during the year in terms of Section 9 (1) . . . . . 47
16. Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which following on notice under Section 9 (1):—
  - (a) Undertaking has been given during the year that the house will not be used for human habitation until it has been rendered so fit, Nil.
  - (b) Undertaking has been given during the year that the house will be rendered fit . . . . . Nil.
  - (c) Demolition Orders have been made during the year under Section 9 (4) . . . . . 42
  - (d) Closing Orders have been made during the year under Section 9 (4) and 11 (1) . . . . . 5

- |  |      |
|--|------|
| 17. Number of dwellinghouses rendered fit during the year following an undertaking under Section 9 (2) . . . . .   | Nil. |
| 18. Number of dwellinghouses rendered fit for human habitation during the year at instance of Town Council without formal notice under the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1950 . . . . .  | Nil. |
| 19. Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Closing Orders have in terms of Section 9 (4) been determined by the Town Council during the year following upon houses having been rendered fit for human habitation . . . . . | Nil. |
| 20. Number of houses in respect of which advances have been made during the year in terms of Section 75 towards cost of repairs and the amount so advanced (50% Grant in each case) . . . . .                                    | 5    |
| 21. The general character of the defects found was:—   |      |
| (a) Insufficient sanitary accommodation and water supply.  |      |
| (b) Dampness, lack of damp-proof course, age of structure, lack of or insufficient sub-floor ventilation.  |      |
| (c) No through ventilation, lack of open spaces around buildings and lack of paving and drainage areas.  |      |
| (d) Defective roofing, grates, chimneys, plasterwork, flooring, windows, and walls.  |      |
| (e) Inadequate natural lighting.   |      |
| (f) Lack of or insufficient washing facilities and press accommodation.  |      |
| (g) Defective and insanitary drainage.   |      |

Under the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897, one hundred and fifty-nine intimations were issued in respect of defects existing in dwellinghouses, and of these thirty-nine referred to dampness, nine to defective chimneys, eleven to defective floors, forty-six to defective roofs, and fifty-four to general defects.

As mentioned in previous reports, this particular section of the work performed by the Sanitary Department is indeed of supreme importance having regard to the contribution it makes to the health and welfare of a not inconsiderable number of the population.

### **New Houses Completed :**

During the year two hundred and fifty-six non-traditional and thirty-two traditional (sixteen houses of 2-apartments for aged persons) houses were completed and occupied at the Aberdour Road (First, Second and Third Developments) Housing Scheme, while six traditional houses were completed on Gap Sites at Townhill. The Scottish Special Housing Association Ltd. completed the last thirty houses at the St. Leonard's Housing Scheme, in which all the houses have been built exclusively for miners, 50 per cent. of whom are being transferred into the Burgh from the other mining areas. Twelve traditional houses were built by the Scottish National Housing Company, Rosyth, and these houses were let to Admiralty employees. Six houses in the Aberdour Road (Third Development "A") were allocated to the Fife Constabulary and the Fife Fire Brigade for letting on a service let basis by the Services concerned. Eight houses were built during the year by private enterprise.



The above may be summarised as follows:—

*Houses Built by Local Authority:*

*Non Traditional:*

Aberdour Road Scheme . . . . . 256

*Traditional:*

Aberdour Road . . . . . 32

Townhill (Gap Sites) . . . . . 6

— 294

*Houses Built by Scottish Special Housing Association:*

Traditional . . . . . 30

*Houses Built by Scottish National Housing Company, Rosyth:*

Traditional . . . . . 12

*Houses Built by Private Enterprise . . . . . 8*

Total . . . . . 344

### **New Houses Under Construction :**

Work continues at the Aberdour Road and Camdean Housing Schemes, while gap sites are being redeveloped in the Townhill area. At the end of the year two hundred and twenty-four houses (comprising three and four apartments) were under construction by the Scottish Special Housing Association Ltd. at the Aberdour Road (Fourth Development) Housing Scheme, while a block of twenty houses (comprising one, three and four apartments) was also under construction in the St. Leonard's Scheme.

### **Notices Requiring Admission :**

Fourteen notices in terms of Section 159 of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1950, were served on the occupiers of houses who refused admission to an inspector. These notices had the desired effect, subsequent admission being granted.

### **Tenants' Housing Applications :**

The housing applications of seven hundred and sixty-nine tenants were dealt with during the year. Of these four hundred and twenty-seven were new applications and the remaining three hundred and forty-two were for re-assessment on account of change of circumstances. Six hundred and seventy-nine housing applicants were interviewed during the year. Two hundred and forty-eight houses were inspected regarding cleanliness, and of these one hundred and fifty-seven were Corporation houses and the remaining ninety-one were privately-owned houses. As a result of these inspections nineteen written notices were served and eighty-four verbal warnings were given. In order to ascertain if these notices and warnings had been complied with, it was necessary to reinspect the houses concerned. Four visits of inspection were made to the Hostel Block, Townhill, where conditions were found satisfactory.

## Rehousing of Families :

(1) **Overcrowded.**—Two hundred and thirty families living overcrowded (including forty-four families having a member in ill-health), thirty-two families living in unfit houses and thirteen families having a tubercular member) were rehoused during the year. Of these two hundred and fourteen were rehoused into Corporation permanent houses and sixteen mining families into the S.S.H.A. Houses for Miners at the St. Leonard's and Woodmill Schemes.

(2) **Living in Unfit Houses.**—Forty-three families living in unfit houses (including thirty-two families living overcrowded as mentioned above) were rehoused, thirty-seven into Corporation permanent property, five mining families into the St. Leonard's Scheme for Miners, and one into Corporation Old Property.

(3) **Living in Lodgings.**—One hundred and six families living in lodgings (including eight families having a tubercular member) were rehoused and of these, fifty-three were housed in Corporation temporary houses, forty-one in permanent houses, one in Corporation old property, and eleven mining families in the S.S.H.A. Houses for Miners at the St. Leonard's and Woodmill Schemes.

(4) **With Illness.**—Forty-seven families having a member in ill-health (including forty-four families living overcrowded as mentioned above) were rehoused, and of these forty-five were rehoused in Corporation property, while the remaining two families were rehoused in the S.S.H.A. Houses for Miners at the St. Leonard's Scheme.

(5) **Transfers.**—Forty-two transfers were granted during the year, of which twenty-one were granted to families living in temporary prefabricated houses to permanent houses, fifteen to Corporation tenants, and the remaining six to mining families residing outwith the Burgh.

(6) **Exchanges.**—During the year ninety-eight exchanges were granted, seventy-eight of these being granted to Corporation tenants, sixteen to tenants of privately-owned houses, and four to tenants residing outwith the Burgh. As a result of these exchanges being granted, ten cases of overcrowding were abated and one family having a tubercular member was suitably rehoused.

(7) **Families Receiving Special Priority.**—Thirty-seven families receiving special priority were also rehoused, and of these twenty-six were Admiralty Special Priority Applicants (six of whom resided

outwith the Burgh), the remaining eleven families consisting of Corporation and Board of Trade Key Workers.

(8) **Aged Persons' Group.**—Sixteen families coming under the aged persons' group were rehoused in 2-apartment houses in the Aberdour Road (Second Development) Housing Scheme. These houses are of the traditional type and specially built for applicants coming under this Group.

(9) **Requisitioned Property.**—Seventeen families living in Requisitioned houses were rehoused during the year. Of these, thirteen were rehoused in Corporation permanent houses and the remaining four in Corporation Old Property, while of the remaining four families living in requisitioned houses two were evicted and the other two are due for rehousing when suitable accommodation is available. The Department of Health for Scotland ceased to maintain the twenty-one requisitioned reconditioned houses used for emergency housing purposes as a result of which these houses were returned to their respective owners.

### Rent Restrictions Certificates :

There were no Certificates issued in terms of the Rent and Mortgage Interest (Restrictions) Acts, 1920-1923, as compared with three Certificates issued during 1952.

### Housing Applications :

At the end of the year there were 3,355 applicants for housing accommodation comprising the following groups, viz.:—

Tenants known to be living overcrowded . . . . .	1,012
Families living as sub-tenants . . . . .	1,494
Single female persons who qualify for consideration for 1-apartment houses . . . . .	128
Applicants working in the Burgh with families living outwith the Burgh . . . . .	251
Aged persons who qualify for consideration for 2-apartment houses, Applications from tenants without points under the present letting scheme . . . . .	46
	243
Applications from tenants with points but not overcrowded . . . . .	181

The overcrowded standard is based on the recommendation of D.H.S. Circular No. 149/44, dated 19th October 1944.

### OVERCROWDING :

A. No. of cases of overcrowding relieved as a result of action taken by Local Authority and the number of persons concerned from the date of Housing Survey, 1935, to end of 1953.	Houses.	Persons.
	2,177	12,436

B. (a) No. of houses of each size (i.e., 1-apartment, 2-apartments, etc.) in which overcrowding has been relieved during the same period as a result of action taken by the Local Authority distinguishing between (1) privately-owned houses and (2) Local Authority houses.	Apts. 1 .. .. . 395 2 .. .. . 1,016 3 .. .. . 183 4 .. .. . 76 <u>1,670</u>	Private. 395 1,016 183 76 <u>1,670</u>	L.A. 21 134 353 34 <u>542</u>
(b) Total number of overerowed families included in (1) and (2) who have been re-housed in privately-owned houses.	153 (of which 152 came from privately-owned houses and 1 from a Corporation house).		
C. No. of known cases in which dwelling-houses in respect of which the Local Authority have relieved overcrowding have again become overcrowded.	84 (of which 74 were privately-owned and 10 from a Corporation house).		
D. Are steps being taken to secure that the re-housing of families living under the worst conditions are provided for first as regards overcrowding or otherwise living under unsatisfactory conditions?	Yes—by means of a "Points" Scheme.		
If so, give details of system under which families are selected for occupation of new or vacated local authority houses.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nos. in family and size of house.</li> <li>Sex separation.</li> <li>TB or other illness.</li> <li>Structural condition of house.</li> <li>Priority given to disabled ex-Servicemen.</li> <li>Waiting time—1 point for every 5 years on list.</li> <li>Expectant mother receives an additional 2 points.</li> </ol>		
E. Any observations with regard to general position of overcrowding in the district.	At the end of the year there were 406 houses (1,012 houses based on D.H.S. Circular 149/44) known to be overcrowded by the occupier and his family.		

Of the 1,012 houses mentioned above, forty-nine refer to overcrowded prefabricated temporary houses.

The following tables show the known cases of overcrowding existing at 31st December 1953, in terms of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1950.

Ward.	1 Apt.	2 Apts.	3 Apts.	4 Apts.	5 Apts. and over.	Totals.
1 .. .. .	16	61	9	3	4	93
2 .. .. .	16	31	5	—	—	52
3 .. .. .	9	72	19	2	—	102
4 .. .. .	27	17	4	—	—	48
5 .. .. .	14	12	—	2	—	28
6 .. .. .	3	31	16	4	1	55
7 .. .. .	—	4	6	16	2	28
Totals .. ..	85	228	59	27	7	406

	1 Apt.	2 Apts.	3 Apts.	4 Apts.	5 Apts. and over.	Totals.
Dunfermline.. ..	80	169	16	2	—	267
Rosyth .. .. .	—	—	2	15	2	19
Townhill.. .. .	3	30	—	—	—	33
Kingscat.. .. .	2	4	—	—	—	6
Corporation.. ..	—	25	41	10	5	81
Totals .. .. .	85	228	59	27	7	406



Number of houses known to be overcrowded in terms of D.H.S. Circular 149 44:—

Ward.	1 Apt.	2 Apts.	3 Apts.	4 Apts.	5 Apts. and over.	Totals.
1 .. .. .	22	152	39	—	—	213
2 .. .. .	32	100	47	4	1	184
3 .. .. .	19	131	32	3	—	185
4 .. .. .	34	71	14	3	—	122
5 .. .. .	23	55	29	2	—	109
6 .. .. .	3	43	34	6	3	89
7 .. .. .	—	6	27	27	1	61
Totals .. .	133	558	222	45	5	963

	1 Apt.	2 Apts.	3 Apts.	4 Apts.	5 Apts. and over.	Totals.
Dunfermline.. .	125	457	159	9	3	753
Rosyth .. .	—	1	23	26	1	51
Townhill.. .	6	49	6	1	—	62
Kingseat.. .	2	14	2	—	—	18
Corporation.. .	—	37	32	9	1	79
Totals .. .	133	558	222	45	5	963

In addition to the nine hundred and sixty-three houses mentioned above, there were forty-nine temporary houses overcrowded.

### New Houses :

The undernoted table gives the number of houses erected and converted since the coming into operation of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1919, by (a) Town Council, and (b) Private Enterprise, showing the number of rooms, exclusive of scullery and bathroom, viz.:—

	1 Apt.	2 Apts.	3 Apts.	4 Apts.	5 Apts. and over	Totals.
1919-1947.. .	6	203	1963	1696	390	4258
1948 .. .	—	1	1	184	17	203
1949 .. .	—	—	19	227	20	266
1950 .. .	—	—	—	182	24	206
1951 .. .	—	—	12	96	16	124
1952 .. .	—	—	109	128	27	264
1953 .. .	—	16	168	144	16	344
Totals .. .	6	220	2272	2657	510	5665

The Town Council is the owner of 3,267 houses, and of these 116 are non-subsidy houses, 200 are 3-apartment temporary (pre-fabricated) houses, and 50 aluminium (permanent) houses, the remainder, namely, 2,901 being subsidised under the various Housing Acts. In addition the Town Council owns 74 old houses which were built prior to the coming into operation of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1919.

Through the agency of the Housing Manager, the Town Council also factor 340 houses situated at St. Leonard's and Woodmill

Housing Schemes, belonging to the Scottish Special Housing Association Ltd., and let exclusively to miners, and also two houses at Seggsburn belonging to the Forth Road Bridge Company.

### Houses Represented :

During the year forty-seven houses were represented in terms of Section 9 of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1950, and the Town Council ultimately made Demolition Orders in respect of forty-two of these houses and Closing Orders in respect of the remaining five houses.

At the end of the year there were still in use for human habitation thirty-eight unfit houses which had already been dealt with by the Town Council under Section 9 (1) of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1950, and of these thirty-eight houses Demolition Orders were made in respect of thirty-five and Closing Orders in respect of the remaining three.

The following tables show the size and situation of the houses represented:—

Ward.	1 Apt.	2 Apts.	3 Apts.	4 Apts.	5 Apts. and over.	Totals.
1 .. .. .	4	6	1	—	1	12
2 .. .. .	1	—	—	—	—	1
3 .. .. .	1	8	—	—	—	9
4 .. .. .	6	14	1	—	—	21
5 .. .. .	2	1	1	—	—	4
6 .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—
7 .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals .. .	14	29	3	—	1	47

	1 Apt.	2 Apts.	3 Apts.	4 Apts.	5 Apts. and over.	Totals.
Dunfermline.. ..	13	22	3	—	1	39
Townhill.. .. .	1	7	—	—	—	8
Kingseat.. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rosyth .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pattiesmuir .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals .. .	14	29	3	—	1	47

### Houses Listed :

The undernoted tables show the size and situation of the known unfit houses at 31st December 1953, viz.:—

Ward.	1 Apt.	2 Apts.	3 Apts.	4 Apts.	5 Apts. and over.	Totals.
1 .. .. .	57	124	20	4	2	207
2 .. .. .	45	82	31	4	1	163
3 .. .. .	24	95	8	—	—	127
4 .. .. .	62	97	27	6	—	192
5 .. .. .	26	43	15	4	2	90
6 .. .. .	3	9	4	—	—	16
7 .. .. .	1	7	1	—	—	9
Totals .. .	218	457	106	18	5	804



	1 Apt.	2 Apts.	3 Apts.	4 Apts.	5 Apts. and over.	Totals.
Dunfermline.. . . .	202	367	101	18	5	693
Townhill.. . . .	10	48	—	—	—	58
Kingseat.. . . .	5	35	4	—	—	44
Pattiesmuir .. . .	1	7	1	—	—	9
Totals .. . .	218	457	106	18	5	804

### Unfit Houses :

Seventy-eight houses were closed either after representation under the terms of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1950, or by arrangement with the owner, as a result of which the position relative to houses actually closed at 31st December 1953 is as shown hereunder, viz.:—

	1 Apt.	2 Apts.	3 Apts.	4 Apts.	5 Apts. and over.	Totals.
1926-37 .. . . .	179	369	67	25	7	647
1938 .. . . .	18	30	8	6	3	65
1939 .. . . .	16	34	3	—	1	54
1940 .. . . .	2	9	1	—	—	12
1941 .. . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—
1942 .. . . .	—	1	—	—	—	1
1943 .. . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—
1944 .. . . .	—	1	—	—	—	1
1945 .. . . .	—	1	—	—	—	1
1946 .. . . .	3	3	—	2	—	8
1947 .. . . .	1	2	—	—	—	3
1948 .. . . .	5	16	5	—	—	26
1949 .. . . .	6	15	8	1	—	30
1950 .. . . .	—	1	1	2	—	4
1951 .. . . .	16	29	5	3	—	53
1952 .. . . .	11	41	6	1	1	60
1953 .. . . .	21	43	8	5	1	78
Totals .. . .	278	595	112	45	13	1043

## FOOD SUPPLY.

### MILK :

Number of dairies on register .. . . .	10
Number of retail purveyors of milk .. . . .	14
Number of producers and wholesale dealers who do not sell milk by retail .. . . .	2
Approximate number of cows in registered premises .. . . .	337
Number of dairies exempted from registration .. . . .	Nil.
Number of inspections .. . . .	51

During the year two herds were upgraded from Tubereulin Tested to Certified, and one from Standard to Tuberculin Tested. On the death of the owner of a farm it was sold, and at the end of the year had not been re-stocked so that one Tubereulin Tested Licence was revoked. As the result of these changes the number of producers' licences held at the close of the year were:—

Certified .. . . .	2
Tubereulin Tested .. . . .	6

In addition there were two non-designated producers, the milk from whose premises is sent to the Creamery for Pasteurising.

As in former years, visits of inspection, numbering fifty-one in all, were made to the dairies within the Burgh, and on occasions the attention of the producers had to be drawn to the following unsatisfactory conditions, viz.:—

- (1) Dirty condition of cows, premises, and utensils.
- (2) Cleansing and lime-washing of byres and milk stores.
- (3) Methods of cleansing and storing utensils.
- (4) The use of uncovered milk pails and non-use of strip cup.
- (5) Unhygienic condition of dungsteads.
- (6) Non-wearing of overalls by milkers.
- (7) Defective condition of premises.

The local Creamery was also regularly inspected, thirty-one visits being paid and work was proceeding at the end of the year in the installation of two circular balance tanks which are to take the place of the existing flat tank.

#### **THE MILK AND DAIRIES (SCOTLAND) ORDER, 1934 :**

The requirements of this Order were kept in mind during routine inspections with a view to securing the necessary compliance.

#### **THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1949.**

On the 1st May 1953, the Burgh of Dunfermline became a Specified Area in terms of the above Act.

#### **THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (SCOTLAND) ORDER, 1951 :**

The following licences were in force at the end of the year:—

Special Designation.	Capacity.	Type.	Number.
Tuberculin Tested.	Producer.	Principal.	6
Tuberculin Tested.	Dealer.	Supplementary.	4
Standard.	Dealer.	Supplementary..	1
Pasteurised.	Producer.	Principal.	1
Pasteurised.	Dealer.	—	1
Certified.	Producer.	Principal.	2

Three herds, two Tuberculin Tested to Certified, and one Standard to Tuberculin Tested, were upgraded after the byres and dairy premises had been reconditioned and thereafter stocked with attested animals. The Co-operative Society was also granted a Dealer's (Supplementary) Tuberculin Tested Licence.

One hundred and seventy-six samples were submitted for bacteriological examination and of these, sixteen failed to comply.

but subsequent sampling showed conformity to the requirements of the Order.

### **PUBLIC HEALTH (IMPORTED FOOD) REGULATIONS, 1932 :**

As far as practicable, steps were taken to ensure the necessary compliance in terms of the above Regulations and no contravention was discovered.

### **PUBLIC HEALTH (CONDENSED MILK) REGULATIONS (SCOTLAND), 1931 :**

Four samples of Condensed Full Cream Sweetened Milk, one of Condensed Full Cream Unsweetened Milk, and two of Condensed Machine Skimmed Sweetened Milk were taken and submitted to the Public Analyst for examination.

All were reported genuine, while the labelling conformed to the Regulations.

### **PUBLIC HEALTH (DRIED MILK) REGULATIONS (SCOTLAND), 1931 :**

Four samples of Dried Milk were taken during the year and submitted to the Public Analyst, who reported that all conformed to the Regulations.

### **KEEPING QUALITY OF MILK—D.H.S. CIRCULAR 17/47 :**

Two samples of Sweet Milk were taken in terms of the above Circular and submitted to the Bacteriologist for examination by the Methylene Blue (Hiscox) Test, and both were reported to conform to the test.

Two samples of Tuberculin Tested and one of Standard Milk were also submitted and these also conformed.

### **TUBERCULOUS MILK—BIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION :**

Ten samples of Milk, comprising four Tuberculin Tested, two Sweet Milk, two Standard, one Pasteurised, and one Certified Milk were taken and submitted to the Bacteriologist for biological examination to determine the presence or absence of Tubercle Bacilli, and all the samples gave a negative reaction.

### **CLEANLINESS OF MILK AND OTHER BOTTLES :**

Six bottles, comprising five milk and one aerated water, were submitted to the Bacteriologist for examination, and of these one

milk bottle was reported unsatisfactory while the others were satisfactory. The necessary remedial action was taken by the dairyman from whose premises the unsatisfactory sample was taken.

### **PUBLIC HEALTH (PRESERVATIVES, ETC., IN FOOD) REGULATIONS (SCOTLAND), 1925-27 :**

Twenty-nine formal samples, comprising ten mince, eighteen sausages and one sausage meat, were taken and submitted for analysis in terms of the above Regulations to the Public Analyst. Thirteen informal or test samples were also taken and these, along with the formal samples, were all reported genuine.

### **LABELLING OF FOOD ORDERS :**

The requirements of these Orders were kept in view when inspecting shops and similar premises, but no contravention was observed.

### **MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT, 1926 :**

Thirty-five visits of inspection were made to shops and traders' vehicles to ascertain if proper marking of imported foodstuffs was being carried out, as a result of which three written intimations were sent to repeated offenders and twenty-seven verbal warnings issued regarding offences, the vast majority of which related to the failure to mark imported tomatoes with an indication of origin.

One complaint was received from shopkeepers in Rosyth to the effect that hawkers were selling imported tomatoes as Scotch tomatoes during Saturday afternoons and observations were therefore taken, when it was found that in four cases hawkers' vans failed to display the necessary labels. Warnings were given in each of these cases and a further visit, paid in a few weeks, resulted in proceedings being instituted against a hawker who, pleading guilty to the charge at the Sheriff Court, was fined £2.

### **UN SOUND FOOD :**

During the year 3 tons 4 cwts. 1 qr. 5 lbs. 1 oz. of tinned foodstuffs and 1 ton 14 cwts. 1 qr. 1 lb. 12 ozs. of other foodstuffs were dealt with under Section 43 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897.

### **SLAUGHTERHOUSE :**

Fourteen visits of inspection were made to the Slaughterhouse which, although obsolete and structurally unsuitable, was efficiently



conducted by the Superintendent, Mr L. P. Russell, who has supplied the undernoted information relative to the number and type of animals slaughtered and condemned during the year, viz.:—

Stock.	Slaughtered.	Condemnations.					
		Wholly Con- demned.	Partly Con- demned.	Meat. lbs.	Offals. lbs.	Livers. Nos.	Plucks Nos. Cattle part livers.
Cattle . . .	4,191	40	13	23,012	47,327	1,448	1,192
Sheep . . .	23,982	33	7	1,588	3,103	1,207	77
Pigs . . .	2,158	18	9	3,128	853	—	101
Calves . . .	1,174	15	1	828	157	—	28

### BAKEHOUSES :

During the year sixty-seven visits of inspection were made to bakehouses, and four written and twenty verbal intimations were issued.

Generally the improvements noted in last year's report have been maintained. One firm had taken delivery at the end of the year of a mechanical floor sweeper and cleaner, and preliminary results appear satisfactory. In two cases, however, the general condition of the bakehouses concerned left much to be desired, but, after repeated warnings and visits, both bakehouses showed an improvement towards the end of the year.

In two bakehouses open floor drainage was closed and large washing-up tanks substituted with a resultant improvement in the bakery floors.

New sanitary accommodation for female employees was provided in one bakehouse where the need for such conveniences has been obvious for some considerable time.

The number of cases in which flour moth maggots were found in flour bins, etc., was much reduced, and shows that the plant is being cleaned with more regularity and care.

It cannot be too often emphasised that a daily routine cleaning of bakehouse premises is the best way to ensure the maintenance of a hygienic bakery, and it is pleasing to record that, on the whole, the bakehouses in the Burgh have been well maintained during the year.

### PREMISES FOR PREPARATION AND SALE OF FOOD-STUFFS :

Thirty-eight visits were paid to premises such as cafés, tearooms, hotels, etc., in which food is prepared for sale, and it was found

necessary to issue one written and five verbal intimations to occupiers regarding certain unsatisfactory conditions obtaining therein.

Thirty-three visits of inspection were made to licensed premises, and three written and four verbal warnings were given.

Fourteen visits were made to butchery premises, in some of which it was observed that the condition of the back shop contrasted strangely with the clean and neat appearance of the front shop, as a result of which the occupiers were consequently advised to give more attention to the hygienic aspect, so far as relating to the structure and plant used for the manufacture of mince and sausages.

There were certain improvements effected during the year, probably the most outstanding being the provision of a new cold store in a sausage factory, the entrance to which was also considerably improved by cleaning and painting.

Seven complaints were received regarding the unhygienic condition of certain foodstuffs.

Two of these complaints were in respect of aerated water, the bottles containing which were found to have been contaminated by disinfectant and soapy material, due to the action of some irresponsible persons who use such bottles as containers for all kinds of liquids, thereafter returning the bottles to the manufacturers. The main cause of the unhygienic condition is not so much the actual bottles which are normally cleansed and sterilised by the firms concerned, but the lodgment of the foreign substance between the rubber washer and the screw top, a site from which it is extremely difficult, if not impossible, to remove. This is an example of how the members of the general public could materially and positively assist the food hygiene campaign by refraining from the misuse of all types of reusable food containers and vessels. Another two complaints related to dirty milk bottles which should never have been allowed to leave the premises of the dealers, both of whom were warned to overhaul their method of operation with particular reference to the examination of the bottles after filling.

One complaint concerned the mouldy condition of sausage rolls purchased from a local butchery, where it was eventually ascertained that the rolls had been exposed for sale for a week, and in view of this the remainder of the stock, which on examination was found to be in a similar condition, was destroyed as unfit for human consumption. It is obvious that such articles of food should only be kept for as short a period of time as possible, and pending sale



should be retained in a refrigerator or cold store to prevent or inhibit the growth of moulds and bacteria.

Another complaint referred to the sale of mince in a butcher's shop by an assistant whose hands were alleged to be dirty. When the shop was inspected it was discovered that neither soap nor towel were available at the wash basin, the former being in the office and the latter at the laundry. It is suggested that this state of affairs, which is by no means uncommon, should not obtain at the present day, and it should be incumbent upon the occupiers of all shops, especially food shops, to have such facilities available at all times.

The last complaint, which was somewhat unusual and rather humorous, dealt with a packet of tea in which the purchaser, on opening, found two small tablets. A visit was thereafter made to the premises of the vendor, but no tablets were found in the few packets of tea which were then examined. It ultimately transpired, on receipt of the certificate from the Public Analyst, that these tablets were in actual fact saccharins.

The usual means were again adopted to publicise the need for and the manner in which the hygienic handling, manufacturing, and sale of all articles of food could be achieved, and these included talks to various organisations, display of posters, and participation in a local traders' exhibition, at which the Sanitary Department had a clean food exhibit.

Despite this propaganda, it is obvious that the time is long overdue for the issue of a code of clean food regulations, the application of which, it is hoped, will result in an improvement in the conditions obtaining in quite a considerable number of the food premises of this country.

## FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928 :

Seventy-six formal samples were taken during the year and submitted to the Public Analyst for analysis in accordance with the requirements of the above Act. The following table shows the variety of these samples and the results of the analysis:—

No. of Samples Taken.	Nature.	Genuine.	Non-Genuine.
1	Gin.	1	—
25	Ice Cream.	21	4
12	Milk.	12	—
10	Mince.	10	—
18	Sausages.	18	—
1	Sausage Meat.	1	—
9	Whisky.	8	1
<hr/> 76		<hr/> 71	<hr/> 5

Proceedings were instituted in the cases of the five non-genuine samples, the results of which are shown in Appendix 10.

One hundred and eleven informal or test samples were taken and submitted to the Public Analyst. These were:—

No. of Samples Taken.	Nature.	Genuine.	Non-Genuine.
2	Aerated Waters.	1	1
1	Almond Oil.	1	—
1	Antacid Tablets.	1	—
1	Bacon.	1	—
1	Bicarbonate of Soda.	1	—
1	Black Bun.	1	—
1	Black Pudding.	1	—
1	Bland's Pills.	1	—
1	Borax.	1	—
4	Butter.	4	—
1	Castor Oil.	1	—
1	Cheese Spread.	1	—
1	Chopped Pork.	1	—
4	Condensed Full Cream Milk Sweetened.	4	—
1	Condensed Full Cream Milk Unsweetened.	1	—
2	Condensed Machine Skimmed Milk Sweetened.	2	—
1	Cod Liver Oil Cream.	1	—
1	Cottage Pie.	1	—
1	Crab (Tinned).	1	—
2	Cream.	2	—
1	Cream of Tartar.	1	—
2	Dates.	2	—
1	Dried Full Cream Milk.	1	—
1	Dried Half Cream Milk.	1	—
2	Dried Machine Skimmed Milk.	2	—
1	Epsom Salts.	1	—
5	Fish Cakes.	5	—
2	Gregory's Powder.	2	—
1	Ground White Pepper.	1	—
1	Glucose Tablets.	1	—
1	Headache Powder.	1	—
6	Ice Cream.	5	1
1	Jelly.	1	—
1	Jellied Veal.	1	—
1	Luncheon Meat.	1	—
4	Margarine.	4	—
1	Malt Vinegar.	1	—
1	Meat Paste.	1	—
1	Mercury Ointment.	1	—
18	Milk.	16	2
1	Milk of Magnesia.	1	—
1	Mince.	1	—
2	Olive Oil.	2	—
1	Pork Pie.	1	—
1	Pickles.	1	—
12	Sausages.	12	—
1	Salicylic Acid Ointment.	1	—
2	Shredded Beef Suet.	2	—
1	Steak Pudding.	1	—
1	Synthetic Cream Powder.	1	—
2	Tomato Ketchup.	2	—
4	Whisky.	4	—
1	Zinc Ointment.	1	—

The deficient sample of aerated water was found to contain 40 parts per million of Phenols due, probably, to insufficient cleaning after the bottle had been used for disinfectant. The two deficient milk samples were taken on the request of a Service Department. An official sample, taken later from the premises in which the non-genuine informal sample of ice cream mentioned above was produced, was reported genuine.

The foregoing list included samples taken under the following Orders:—

### The Soft Drinks (Amendment) Order, 1951 :

One test sample was taken and submitted to the Public Analyst, who reported that it conformed.

### The Food Standards (Cream) Order, 1951 :

Two test samples taken and both reported to conform.

### The Food Standards (Fish Cakes) Order, 1950 :

Five test samples taken and all reported genuine.

### The Food Standards (Meat Paste) (Amendment) Order, 1951 :

One test sample taken and reported genuine.

### The Food Standards (Suet) Order, 1952 :

Two test samples taken and both reported to conform.

## The Ice Cream (Scotland) Regulations, 1948 :

Registrations were granted during the year relative to twelve premises and two vehicles, while registrations were cancelled in respect of four premises and one vehicle, and at the end of the year the following registrations were in force:—

Premises—Manufacture, storage, and sale .. . . .	10
Premises—Storage and sale .. . . .	12
Vehicles .. . . .	7

Eighty-four visits of inspection were made to premises and vehicles registered under the above Regulations and, as a result, eight written and thirteen verbal intimations were issued. One factory was completely redecorated during the year. Relative to the inspection of vehicles, it was found on occasions that facilities such as towels, soap, and even sometimes water were not being provided for the washing of the hands of vendors. The first safeguard in food hygiene is personal cleanliness, and it would be a dereliction of duty if steps were not taken to ensure that a potentially dangerous food, such as ice cream, is handled in a cleanly manner. Several warnings

were given to vendors regarding this matter, and one of these vendors was discovered, after having been duly warned, with his hands in a very dirty state while engaged in selling ice cream to children. He had been on the road selling ice cream for some five hours and his towel was almost spotlessly clean, from which it was obvious that this was a case in which prosecution was the only answer, and proceedings were instituted. The vendor pleaded guilty and a fine of £4 was imposed, the resulting publicity having its effect, a marked improvement being noted thereafter.

One hundred and six samples of ice cream were taken during the year, twenty-five formal and six informal being submitted for chemical analysis, and the remaining seventy-five for bacteriological examination with the following results:—

#### BACTERIOLOGICAL:

No. of Samples taken—75.

*B. Coli*—Present in 9; Absent in 66.

*Bacteria per gram*—Average of 75 samples—55,060.

Bacteria per Gram.	Less than 1,000	1,000 to 5,000	5,000 to 10,000	10,000 to 50,000	50,000 to 100,000	100,000 to 200,000	Over 200,000
No. of Samples .. ..	11	42	2	8	3	0	9

#### METHYLENE BLUE TEST:

Grade .. .. .	I.	II.	III.	IV.
No. of Samples.. .. .	29	17	10	19

The unsatisfactory samples were followed up by inspections and further sampling. In two cases it was found that the plant involved was at fault and replacements were installed with satisfactory results, while in another an employee was found to have become very careless with regard to the sterilisation of the plant, a subsequent sample being reported satisfactory.

#### CHEMICAL:

The standards for ice cream were again altered during the year with the advent of the Food Standards (Ice Cream) Order, 1953, which came into force on 1st June 1953. This Order increased the standards to:—

Fat .. . . . 5%  
Milk solids other than fat .. . . . 7½%  
The minimum sugar standard remains at 10%

Twenty-five formal and six informal samples were submitted for chemical analysis. Four formal and one informal samples did not comply on account of low fat content.



The four disconform formal samples resulted in proceedings being initiated, the results being shown in Appendix 11.

The deficient informal sample was followed by a formal one which was reported to be genuine.

The fat content of these samples ranged from 2.55% to 10.83%, the average of the thirty-one samples being 5.99%, while the average non-fatty solids was 7.78% and sugar 13.32%.

% Fat.	Less than 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-6	6-7	7-8	8-9	9-10	Over 10
No. of Samples,	—	—	2	3	3	8	5	5	4	—	1

## PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Once again it falls to be recorded that the Cleansing Department succeeded in the execution of its manifold tasks, only four complaints being lodged during the year and of these two referred to refuse collection, one to weeding and the other to surreptitious dumping of garden refuse, but these were in due course remedied.

### STREET CLEANSING :

The beat system of Street Cleansing, assisted where possible by mechanical means, was still operated, and the cleansing of the central area on Sundays and holidays was continued, as a result of which 1,065 tons of material was collected from the streets of the Burgh.

It still falls to be recorded that our efforts in this direction are to a considerable extent nullified by the littering and the deposition of rubbish, including garden refuse, which still takes place on a fairly large scale. In this connection it is hoped that a sufficient number of litter bins will be made available at suitable points so as to afford ample facilities for the retention of litter.

Four thousand three hundred and ninety-six Gullies were emptied by the S.D. Gully Emptier and 275 tons of material removed therefrom.

There was not so much snow during the period under review but 117 tons of snow was removed from the streets and pavements, and the cost of removal, inclusive of salt, external haulage, etc., was £555, 11s. 5d.

### REFUSE COLLECTION :

The usual arrangements were in operation for the collection of domestic refuse, the daily yield of which was 29 tons 17.9 cwt.



Another "Fore and Aft" Tipper was obtained and it, along with the other vehicles, gave very satisfactory service during the year.

Once again the repair section of the Cleansing Department operated with efficiency to the satisfaction of the various Corporation Departments.

### REFUSE DISPOSAL :

There were four coups in actual operation, a new one at Brucehaven Farm, owned by the Earl of Elgin, having been commenced during the year with a view to obviating flooding and waterlogging of this area.

The amount of refuse disposed of and the quantity of boiler ashes and soil used for top dressing on the coups in use during the year ending 15th May 1953 are shown in the table hereunder:—

Coups.	House Refuse. Tons.	Sweep- ings. Tons.	Shop Refuse. Tons.	Man- ure. Tons.	Other Refuse. Tons.	Gullies. Tons.	Boiler Ashes. Tons.	Soil Tons.	Snow. Tons.	Total. Tons.
Brucehaven .. . . .	1,946	67	16	—	76	5	390	—	—	2,500
Buffie's Brae .. . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	117	117
Halbeath .. . . .	3,896	64	—	—	132	215	488	—	—	4,795
Headwell .. . . .	—	—	—	—	9	—	2	—	—	11
Muircockhall .. . . .	2,810	743	279	510	831	34	851	6	—	6,064
Rosyth .. . . .	2,260	191	44	4	222	21	490	—	—	3,232
Total .. . . .	10,912	1,065	339	514	1,270	275	2,221	6	117	16,719

### SALVAGE :

The salvage scheme continued to operate as formerly, 1,500½ tons of material being collected, and when sold realised the sum of £5,250, 18s. 5d.

The following tables show the materials collected under this scheme, viz.:—

#### SUMMARY OF SALVAGE COLLECTED IN THE BURGH AND RECEIPTS RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR 1953.

Material.	T.	C.	Q.	Lbs.	£	s.	d.
Destructor Scrap .. . . .	62	18	3	0	269	5	2
Glass .. . . .	34	0	1	0	47	13	11
Kitchen Waste .. . . .	524	8	0	0	1,966	17	9
Manure .. . . .	247	1	2	0	185	6	2
Metals—Ferrous (Black Scrap),	76	14	3	0	263	14	0
Metals—Non-Ferrous .. . . .	0	11	1	0	14	1	3
Miscellaneous .. . . .	0	0	0	0	3	12	0
Paper .. . . .	546	19	2	0	2,413	15	7
Textiles .. . . .	7	12	3	0	86	12	7

Total Weight .. . . . 1,500 tons 6 cwt. 3 qrs.

Gross Receipts .. . . . £5,250 18 5

Nett Receipts .. . . . 1,789 16 1

Yield per 1000 population per annum .. . . . 116 13 8½

Yield per 1000 population per month .. . . . 9 14 5½

Yield per person per annum .. . . . 0 2 4

**SUMMARY OF SALVAGE COLLECTED IN THE BURGH AND RECEIPTS  
RECEIVED FROM INCEPTION OF SALVAGE SCHEME IN NOVEMBER 1939  
TO 31st DECEMBER 1953.**

Material.	T.	C.	Q.	Lbs.	£	s.	d.
Batteries . . . . .	80	5	0	0	42	9	0
Bottles (28,708½ doz.) . . . . .	82	0	2	11	743	4	8
Bones . . . . .	123	6	1	14	373	3	5½
Destructor Scrap . . . . .	1,692	6	2	0	3,849	1	9½
Footwear . . . . .	6	1	2	0	40	9	6
Glass . . . . .	1,014	19	3	0	1,042	12	7½
Kitchen Waste . . . . .	7,892	13	1	0	16,604	6	3
Manure . . . . .	1,713	13	1	0	1,004	11	7½
Miscellaneous . . . . .	132	18	0	0	206	12	3
Metals—Ferrous (Black Scrap),	786	14	1	0	1,721	12	10½
Metals—Non-Ferrous . . . . .	39	13	0	13	804	19	11½
Paper . . . . .	6,649	11	1	0	43,644	9	3½
Rubber . . . . .	46	19	2	0	92	13	1
Straw . . . . .	47	8	3	0	162	9	7
Textiles . . . . .	226	8	3	0	2,123	2	1½
Total Weight . . . . .	20,534 tons 19 cwt. 3 qrs. 10 lbs.						
Gross Receipts . . . . .	£72,455 18 1½						
Nett Receipts . . . . .	30,868 0 2						
Yield per 1000 population . . . . .	1,610 2 7½						
Yield per 1000 population per month . . . . .	9 9 5						
Yield per person . . . . .	1 12 2½						

## COUNTY SALVAGE:

Four tons 10½ cwt. of Destructor Scrap were salvaged from the County Area, and after deducting the cost of transportation, sorting, and disposal, the sum of £8, 12s. 2d. was paid to the County Authorities.

## MILITARY SALVAGE:

One ton 4½ cwt. of Destructor Scrap was received from certain Service Units in the area, and after deduction of expenses a sum of £1, 16s. 9d. was credited to the unit concerned.

## PUBLIC CONVENIENCES:

During the year the new Ladies' and Gentlemen's Convenience in Townhill Road was brought into use, while the existing structures received the necessary attention so far as supervision, cleansing, and maintenance were concerned, and certain of these conveniences were painted and otherwise improved. A convenience similar to the one mentioned above is in course of erection at Blacklaw Road.

Unfortunately, it is still a fact that much wanton destruction is wreaked upon these buildings, resulting in the expenditure of much time, labour, and money before the necessary remedial measures are effected. It is difficult, indeed, to understand the mentality of those who commit such offences, and it would appear as if strong measures

would require to be instituted against the exponents of such anti-social behaviour.

The income from these premises amounted to £1,482, 15s. 8d. and the cost of supervision was £4,021, 12s. 10d., while repairs and supplies cost £1,123, 0s. 8d.

## COSTS:

The hours of labour and the cost of wages for the various duties undertaken by the Cleansing Department during the year ending 15th May 1953 are shown in the following table in which figures for the previous year are included for comparison, viz.:—

Class of Work.	15th May 1953.			15th May 1952.		
	Hours.	Wages.		Hours.	Wages.	
Refuse Collection . . . . .	26,335½	£3,695	3 2	23,589½	£3,128	13 11
Refuse Disposal . . . . .	25,309½	3,565	13 2	26,334½	3,487	6 10
Street Sweepings . . . . .	82,260½	11,083	5 10	77,354½	10,159	13 6
Salvage . . . . .	24,017	3,353	1 4	25,769½	3,375	7 8
Cleansing and Maintenance of Freighters and Depots . . . .	3,918½	640	8 0	2,783½	435	0 7
Public Conveniences . . . . .	31,613½	3,656	7 3	30,223½	3,444	11 2
Vehicles Disinfected (Diseases of Animals Act) . . . . .	491½	67	6 1	554	71	12 6
Removal Slaughterhouse Offal and Manure . . . . .	982	156	18 2	804½	120	18 11
Trade Refuse (Collection and Disposal) . . . . .	1,163½	167	1 7	1,208½	164	14 2
Gritting . . . . .	426½	76	3 10	341½	63	12 0
Snow Clearing . . . . .	770½	107	5 6	1,302	173	1 10
*Other Payments . . . . .	—	3,117	5 0	—	2,192	2 7
	197,289	£29,685	18 11	190,265	£26,816	15 8

\*Other Payments include Administration, Holiday Pay, Annual Holidays, Sick Pay, etc.

The gross cost of operating the Cleansing Service during the financial year 1952/53 was £54,853, 6s. 11d. and the revenue amounted to £13,535, 7s. 9d., the nett cost, therefore, being £41,317, 19s. 2d.

The following statistics were obtained from the above costs and the tonnage shown under refuse disposal, viz.:—

Total quantity of house and trade refuse . . . . .	12,521 tons.
Weight per head of population . . . . .	5.528 cwt.
Daily yield per 1000 population . . . . .	16.151 cwt.
Yearly yield per 1000 population . . . . .	294.75 tons.
Cost per person per year . . . . .	18s. 1.29d.
Cost per person per day . . . . .	0s. 0.59d.
Nett cost of collection of 1 ton of house and trade refuse . .	19s. 0.51d.
Nett cost of disposal of 1 ton of house and trade refuse . .	8s. 6.59d.
Total cost of collection and disposal per ton . . . . .	27s. 7.10d.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT:

The support extended to me by the members of the Town Council, and in particular the members of the Health and Cleansing

Committees, is gratefully acknowledged, as is also the assistance given to me by the other Corporation Officials, while I would like to avail myself of this opportunity of expressing thanks to the staff and employees for their services.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

ALEXR. H. DUNCAN,  
Chief Sanitary Inspector and  
Inspector of Cleansing.

## Appendix 1.

**Nuisances and General Inspections.**

No. of complaints received (of which 12 were unjustified) . . . . .	398
No. of written intimations issued . . . . .	194
No. of verbal intimations issued . . . . .	152
No. of second notices issued . . . . .	31
No. of inspections, Section 115, Burgh Police (Scotland) Act, 1892 . . . . .	6
No. of notices issued under Section 115, Burgh Police (Scotland) Act, 1892 . . . . .	4
No. of inspections, Section 117, Burgh Police (Scotland) Act, 1892 . . . . .	85
No. of notices issued under Section 117, Burgh Police (Scotland) Act, 1892 . . . . .	27
No. of notices issued under Section 119, Burgh Police (Scotland) Act, 1892 . . . . .	19
No. of notices issued under Section 381 (36), Burgh Police (Scotland) Act, 1892 . . . . .	3
Houses Let in Lodgings inspections . . . . .	53
No. of written intimations issued . . . . .	2
No. of verbal intimations issued . . . . .	14
Common Lodging House inspections . . . . .	32
No. of written intimations issued . . . . .	Nil.
No. of verbal intimations issued . . . . .	7
Rag Flock inspections . . . . .	1
Bakery inspections . . . . .	67
No. of written intimations issued . . . . .	4
No. of verbal intimations issued . . . . .	20
Factories Acts, 1937-48, inspections . . . . .	91
No. of written intimations issued . . . . .	8
No. of verbal intimations issued . . . . .	22
Places for Public Refreshment inspections . . . . .	38
No. of written intimations issued . . . . .	1
No. of verbal intimations issued . . . . .	5
Places of Public Entertainment inspections . . . . .	8
No. of written intimations issued . . . . .	Nil.
Premises used for the preparation of food inspections . . . . .	85
No. of written intimations issued . . . . .	4
No. of verbal intimations issued . . . . .	16
Premises used for the manufacture and for the retail of ice cream inspections . . . . .	84
No. of written intimations issued . . . . .	8
No. of verbal intimations issued . . . . .	13
Licensed premises inspections . . . . .	33
No. of written intimations issued . . . . .	3
No. of verbal intimations issued . . . . .	4
Merchandise Marks Act inspections . . . . .	35
No. of written intimations issued . . . . .	3
No. of verbal intimations issued . . . . .	27
Shops Act inspections . . . . .	153
No. of written intimations issued . . . . .	11
No. of verbal intimations issued . . . . .	37
Tents, Vans, and Sheds inspections . . . . .	4
No. of written intimations issued . . . . .	Nil.
No. of verbal intimations issued . . . . .	Nil.
Cattle Market inspections . . . . .	18
Rivers Pollution inspections . . . . .	3
No. of written intimations issued . . . . .	Nil.
No. of verbal intimations issued . . . . .	1
Pet Animals Act inspections . . . . .	11
Creamery inspections . . . . .	31
Dairy inspections . . . . .	56
Piggery inspections . . . . .	6
Slaughterhouse inspections . . . . .	14
Smoke observations . . . . .	62
No. of written intimations issued . . . . .	8
No. of verbal intimations issued . . . . .	24
Colour testing drainage . . . . .	115
Smoke testing drainage . . . . .	271



## Appendix 2.

**Infectious Diseases.**

No. of visits to places where infectious diseases occurred .. . . .	228
Apartments disinfected .. . . .	254
Articles disinfected (estimate) .. . . .	14,200
Articles destroyed after deaths of phthisical patients .. . . .	20
Notices issued under Sections 50, 53, and 57 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897 .. . . .	444
Supplies of disinfectant issued .. . . .	61
Notices issued to H.M. Dockyard, etc. .. . . .	85
Sets of bedding replaced .. . . .	2

# Appendix 3.

## Housing Inspections.

### (a) General.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals.
Inspections .. .. .	16	32	26	22	26	45	14	8	59	37	28	40	353
Re-inspections.. . . .	72	37	65	131	31	28	98	54	28	77	36	48	705
Totals .. . . .	88	69	91	153	57	73	112	62	87	114	64	88	1,058

### (b) Inspections Regarding Cleanliness.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals.
Corporation owned ..	14	14	11	18	11	10	15	4	16	9	25	10	157
Privately-owned .. .	8	7	7	9	7	4	9	2	10	8	15	5	91
Totals .. . . .	22	21	18	27	18	14	24	6	26	17	40	15	248

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals.
Written notices issued, 2	2	—	—	—	3	1	3	1	1	3	4	1	19
Verbal warnings given, 7	7	8	8	10	8	6	7	2	9	5	10	4	84
Notices under Section 159 requiring admission, 2	2	—	—	1	1	2	1	—	—	2	3	2	14

No. of Houses .. . . . 60

No. of Written Notices .. . . . 19

No. of Verbal Warnings .. . . . 84

## Appendix 4.

## New Houses Let.

Scheme	OC.	UF.	C/O.	TB.	TB. C/O.	TB. OC.	UF. OC.	H.	H. OC.	TRAN.	EX.	K.W.	A.G.	R.P.	Totals.
Aberdour Road ...	119	1	21	—	1	9	18	2	36	27	—	34	16	4	288
St. Leonard's (Miners) ...	12	1	5	—	—	—	4	—	1	7	—	—	—	—	30
Townhill Gap Sites	2	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
Totals ...	133	2	26	—	1	9	26	2	37	34	—	34	16	4	324

The 34 Key Workers mentioned above include 26 Admiralty Special Priority Applicants.

Scheme.	2 Apts.	3 Apts.	4 Apts.	5 Apts.	6 Apts.	Total.
Aberdour Road.. ..	16	150	106	16	—	288
St. Leonard's Miners,	—	—	30	—	—	30
Townhill Gap Sites ..	—	6	—	—	—	6
Total .. . . .	16	156	136	16	—	324

Month.	2 Apts.	3 Apts.	4 Apts.	5 Apts.	6 Apts.	Total.
January .. . . .	—	16	20	—	—	36
February .. . . .	4	12	10	—	—	26
March .. . . .	2	12	6	4	—	24
April .. . . .	4	8	14	—	—	26
May .. . . .	2	18	19	—	—	39
June .. . . .	2	14	13	4	—	33
July .. . . .	2	8	7	2	—	19
August .. . . .	—	12	11	2	—	25
September .. . . .	—	12	4	—	—	16
October .. . . .	—	12	14	2	—	28
November .. . . .	—	22	16	2	—	40
December .. . . .	—	10	2	—	—	12
Total .. . . .	16	156	136	16	—	324

# Appendix 5. Number of Families Re-housed and Reasons for Re-housing.

Scheme.	OC.	H. OC.	TB. OC.	UF. OC.	C/O.	TB. C/O.	TB.	H.	UF.	TRAN.	EX.	KW.	A.G.	R.P.	Totals.
Aberdour Road ..	120	37	9	19	22	1	—	2	1	27	13	34	16	4	305
Balldridgeburn ..	—	2	1	1	13	1	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	1	23
Bellyeoman ..	—	2	—	1	8	2	—	—	2	2	21	1	—	2	41
Brucefield ..	3	—	1	2	14	1	—	—	2	2	12	2	—	3	42
Burnside ..	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	1	10
Chamberfield ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Headwell ..	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	13
Kingsseat ..	2	—	—	—	12	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	17
Milton Green ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Parkneuk ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Park Road West ..	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Rosyth Halt ..	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	9
St. Leonard's ..	12	2	1	4	9	—	—	—	1	9	6	—	—	—	44
Townhill ..	2	1	—	3	7	1	—	—	4	1	10	—	—	2	31
Whirlbut ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	3	—	—	—	5
Woodmill ..	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	5
Old Property ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	4	8
	141	44	13	32	98	8	—	3	11	42	98	37	16	17	560

	OC.	H. OC.	TB. OC.	UF. OC.	C/O.	TB. C/O.	TB.	H.	UF.	TRAN.	EX.	KW.	A.G.	R.P.	Totals.
January-June ..	84	26	6	23	46	3	—	2	8	22	50	23	14	12	319
July-December ..	57	18	7	9	52	5	—	1	3	20	48	14	2	5	241
	141	44	13	32	98	8	—	3	11	42	98	37	16	17	560

## Appendix 5 (Continued).

## Number of Persons and Units Re-housed into New Houses.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals.
Adults . . . . .	93	73	69	65	81	87	47	73	42	88	115	42	875
Children . . . . .	46	20	32	28	29	46	29	33	19	39	52	12	385
Total . . . . .	139	93	101	93	110	133	76	106	61	127	167	54	1,260
Units . . . . .	116	83	85	79	95½	110	61½	89½	51½	107½	141	48	1,067½

## Number of Persons and Units Re-housed.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals.
Adults . . . . .	138	136	139	108	115	135	65	169	71	124	189	87	1,476
Children . . . . .	66	43	72	45	47	72	34	61	38	62	103	26	669
Total . . . . .	204	179	211	153	162	207	99	230	109	186	292	113	2,145
Units . . . . .	171	157½	175	130½	138½	171	82	199½	90	155	240½	100	1,810½

## Key:

OC.—Overcrowded.

UF.—Unfit.

C/O.—Sub-tenant (living in lodgings).

TB.—Tuberculosis (all kinds).

AG.—Aged Persons.

H.—Health.

TRAN.—Transfer.

EX.—Exchange.

KW.—Key Worker.

R.P.—Requisitioned Property.

Persons under 10 years reckoned as child.

Persons under 10 years reckoned as ½ unit.

Persons over 10 years reckoned as 1 unit.



## Appendix 6.

**Houses Closed 1953.**

Ward.	1 Apt.	2 Apts.	3 Apts.	4 Apts.	5 Apts. and over.	Total.
1 .. .. .	6	8	3	—	—	17
2 .. .. .	1	1	1	—	—	3
3 .. .. .	5	13	—	—	—	18
4 .. .. .	9	10	—	—	—	19
5 .. .. .	—	11	4	5	1	21
6 .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—
7 .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total .. ..	21	43	8	5	1	78

	1 Apt.	2 Apts.	3 Apts.	4 Apts.	5 Apts. and over.	Total.
Dunfermline.. ..	16	30	8	5	1	60
Townhill.. .. .	5	13	—	—	—	18
Kingscat.. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pattiesmuir .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total .. .. .	21	43	8	5	1	78

## Appendix 7.

**Houses Represented.**

	1 Apt.	2 Apts.	3 Apts.	4 Apts.	5 Apts. and over.	Total.
1950 .. .. .	—	1	1	1	—	3
1951 .. .. .	11	41	6	1	1	60
1952 .. .. .	2	3	2	—	—	7
1953 .. .. .	14	29	3	—	1	47

## Appendix 8.

**Houses Inhabited.**

Locus.	Private.	Corporation.	Admiralty.	S.N.H.C.	S.H.H.A.	Total.
Dunfermline .. .. .	5,887	2,558	372	—	340	9,157
Rosyth .. .. .	79	412	741	1,854	—	3,086
Townhill .. .. .	270	261	—	—	—	531
Kingseat .. .. .	115	36	—	—	—	151
Pattiesmuir .. .. .	15	—	—	—	—	15
Seggsburn .. .. .	14	—	—	—	—	14
Landward .. .. .	79	—	—	—	—	79
Total .. .. .	6,459	3,267	1,113	1,854	340	13,033

Key: S.N.H.C.—Scottish National Housing Company.

S.S.H.A.—Scottish Special Housing Association.

Corporation Houses—Only refers to houses built by Local Authority under the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1919, and subsequent Housing Acts.

## Appendix 9.

**Milk (Special Designations) (Scotland) Order, 1951.**

No. of Samples Taken.	Designation.	Conform.	Non-Conform.
75	Pasteurised.	65	10
9	Standard.	9	—
82	Tuberculin Tested.	76	6
10	Certified.	10	—
<u>176</u>		<u>160</u>	<u>16</u>

The following table shows the counts upon which these samples failed:—

Designation.	Presence of B. Coli.	Bacterial Count.	Bacterial Count and Presence of B. Coli.	Phosphatase Test.	Total.
Pasteurised. . . . .	3	—	—	7	10
Tuberculin Tested. . . . .	4	1	1	—	6
Total. . . . .	7	1	1	7	16

## Appendix 10.

**Unsound Food.**

The undernoted list of foodstuffs was dealt with under Section 43 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897:—

TINNED FOODSTUFFS.	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	Ozs.
Apple Pudding . . . . .	—	—	—	6	—
Apples . . . . .	—	—	1	17	15½
Apricots . . . . .	—	—	1	6	15
Beans . . . . .	—	3	—	27	13½
Beans and Sausages . . . . .	—	—	—	1	—
Beans and Tomatoes. . . . .	—	—	—	5	8
Beetroot . . . . .	—	—	—	5	4
Blackberries . . . . .	—	—	1	10	9
Brisket of Beef . . . . .	—	2	1	—	10
Carrots . . . . .	—	—	—	3	10
Cherries . . . . .	—	1	—	19	3½
Chicken . . . . .	—	—	—	5	13½
Condensed Full Cream Milk . . . . .	—	—	3	3	14
Condensed Machine Skimmed Milk . . . . .	—	—	—	3	12
Corned Beef . . . . .	—	1	3	16	4
Corned Beef and Cereal . . . . .	—	—	2	22	—
Corned Mutton and Cereal . . . . .	—	1	—	26	—
Cream . . . . .	—	—	—	7	14
Damsons . . . . .	—	—	2	17	7
Evaporated Milk . . . . .	—	4	3	4	15
Extract of Tomato . . . . .	—	—	—	—	2½
Fish Paste . . . . .	—	—	—	1	1
Fruit Salad . . . . .	—	—	1	4	9½
Grapefruit . . . . .	—	—	—	6	15½
Grapefruit Juice . . . . .	—	—	—	10	5
Grapes . . . . .	—	—	—	13	4
Guavas . . . . .	—	—	—	3	14
Carry forward . . . . .	—	18	3	—	11½

## Appendix 10 (Continued).

TINNED FOODSTUFFS (Continued).	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	Ozs.
Brought forward . . . . .	—	18	3	—	11½
Ham . . . . .	—	6	1	24	13
Irish Stew . . . . .	—	—	—	6	—
Jellied Veal . . . . .	—	6	2	17	5
Lambs' Tongues . . . . .	—	—	—	6	12
Luncheon Meat . . . . .	—	5	2	16	7½
Macaroni . . . . .	—	—	—	1	—
Macedoine . . . . .	—	—	—	11	1
Mangoes . . . . .	—	—	—	6	15
Marmalade . . . . .	—	—	1	8	—
Meat Loaf . . . . .	—	1	2	3	14
Mince and Peas . . . . .	—	—	—	22	2
Mixed Vegetables . . . . .	—	—	—	22	6
Mutton . . . . .	—	—	2	4	12
Oranges . . . . .	—	—	—	8	4
Orange Juice . . . . .	—	—	—	4	7
Ox Tongues . . . . .	—	3	2	11	12
Peaches . . . . .	—	—	1	9	3½
Pears . . . . .	—	1	—	13	½
Peas . . . . .	—	3	3	10	13½
Pilehards . . . . .	—	—	—	10	12
Pineapples . . . . .	—	—	1	8	½
Pineapple Juice . . . . .	—	—	—	1	3
Plums . . . . .	—	3	2	21	4
Pork . . . . .	—	—	3	24	6
Prunes . . . . .	—	1	—	21	15
Rabbit . . . . .	—	—	—	5	—
Raspberries . . . . .	—	—	1	10	5½
Red Pepper . . . . .	—	—	—	—	14½
Rhubarb . . . . .	—	—	—	10	2½
Salmon . . . . .	—	—	—	24	10
Sausages . . . . .	—	—	—	—	6
Soup . . . . .	—	3	1	11	7
Spaghetti . . . . .	—	—	—	4	—
Spaghetti and Sausages . . . . .	—	—	—	12	—
Spinach . . . . .	—	—	—	12	4
Steak Pudding . . . . .	—	—	—	2	—
Stewed Steak . . . . .	—	2	—	21	3½
Strawberries . . . . .	—	—	1	5	6½
Sandwich Spread . . . . .	—	—	—	1	—
Sweet Corn . . . . .	—	—	—	6	—
Tomatoes . . . . .	—	—	3	6	—
Tomato Juice . . . . .	—	—	—	6	2½
Tomatoe Pureé . . . . .	—	—	—	3	15½
Tuna . . . . .	—	—	—	—	3½
Veal and Ham Loaf . . . . .	—	—	2	12	12
Total . . . . .	3	4	1	5	1

Appendix 10 (Continued).

## Appendix 12.

## Summary of Costs of Services Undertaken by Cleansing Department 1952-53.

POPULATION (ESTIMATED) 45,300.

Service. (1)	Interest and Sinking Fund. (2)		Other Expenditure. (3)		Total Gross Expenditure. (4)		Revenue. (5)		Nett Cost. (6)		Nett cost per head of population. 1952-53. 1951-52. (7) (8)	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	s.	d.
(a) Street Cleansing, including watering, washing, gully cleansing, disposal of street sweepings, gritting, and snow removal ..	0	0 0	15,706	11 3	15,706	11 3	129	0 0	15,577	11 3	6	10.53
(b) Refuse Collection, i.e., house, trade, garden, shop, and miscellaneous refuse ..	0	0 0	12,523	12 2	12,523	12 2	601	11 7	11,922	0 7	5	3.16
(c) Refuse Disposal, i.e., house, trade, garden, shop, and miscellaneous refuse ..	0	0 0	6,255	8 11	6,255	8 11	902	18 5	5,352	10 6	2	4.35
(d) Public Conveniences,	350	0 0	7,415	0 1	7,765	0 1	1,760	17 1	6,004	3 0	2	7.81
(e) Other Services ..	0	0 0	6,246	11 8	6,246	11 8	6,618	16 3	-372	4 7	0	1.97
(f) Salvage ..	0	0 0	6,356	2 10	6,356	2 10	3,522	4 5	2,833	18 5	1	1.41
	£350	0 0	£54,503	6 11	£54,853	6 11	£13,535	7 9	£41,317	19 2	18	1.29
											15	6.42

Nett yield of 1d. rate (1952-53) was £1,657 and cleansing costs therefore represent approximately a 2s. 1½d. rate.



SOCIAL SERVICES  
DEPARTMENT

---

REPORT

BY

G. K. PLUMMER, Social Services Officer

# *ANNUAL REPORT.*

---

## **Coronation Celebrations.**

Before going on to the routine matters normally dealt with in the Welfare Services Annual Report, I would like to record that as part of the celebrations in connection with the Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth on 2nd June 1953, the Town Council decided to make a gift to all persons of 70 years and over in Dunfermline and also to all handicapped persons coming within the scope of the services provided by the Town Council under Section 29 of the National Assistance Act. Over 2,000 food gift parcels were delivered to the persons concerned, and this gesture was very much appreciated.

## **PROVISION OF WELFARE SERVICES**

### **under Section 29 of the National Assistance Act.**

#### **(a) Blind Persons.**

There has been no alteration in the arrangements for the provision of Welfare Services to Blind Persons. The Per Capita Grant of £5 per annum to the Fife Society for the Blind continues. The Home Teacher attached to the Dunfermline area, Mr Alex. Reid, 40 Maitland Street, Dunfermline, paid 298 visits to Blind people in Dunfermline, and made arrangements for examination of 11 new cases. Of these new cases reported, 8 were certified as Blind Persons within the meaning of the Blind Persons Acts, and 3 were found to be "not blind." Mr Reid works in close co-operation with the Social Services Department, particularly with regard to special problems involving blind persons. He conducts a weekly Handicraft Class in Dunfermline and a weekly Domino Club. The summer outing this year was to Callander and was very well attended, as were most of the social functions arranged throughout the winter.

Sincere thanks are due to the ladies of the Dunfermline Ladies' Committee who, under the convenership of Mrs Buchanan, 33 Townhill Road, Dunfermline, have not spared themselves in their efforts to provide entertainment and assist in the raising of funds.

The following is a statistical record for the year:—

Number of persons on the Blind Register at 1/1/53:—	
Male 19	Female 30

Number examined by Ophthalmic Surgeon:—		
Male	5	Female 6
Number found to be Blind within the meaning of the Act:—		
Male	2	Female 6
Number of persons added to the Register:—		
Male	3 (1 transfer)	Female 7 (1 transfer)
Number of persons taken off the Register:—		
(a) Deceased—		
Male	1	Female 3
(b) Left this area—		
Male	—	Female —
Number on the Register at end of year:—		
Male	21	Female 34

### (b) Deaf and Dumb Persons.

No change in the existing arrangements has been made over the past year. The Fife Mission to the Deaf and Dumb continues to act for the Town Council on an Agency basis in consideration of a Per Capita Grant of £2. The following is a copy of the Annual Report of Dunfermline Branch for the year ending December 1953, submitted by the Superintendent:—

“During the year 1953 the Dunfermline Branch has continued their usual Social activities as in the previous year, and the Film Shows, Socials and Services have been well attended.

“The fortnightly Church Service has been carried on throughout the year with a depleted staff. Two new members have joined the Branch on leaving school, both residing in Dunfermline.

“The Annual Christmas Social, a joint Kirkcaldy and Dunfermline affair, was held in Pilmuir Street Baths Hall last December, and was well attended.

“The religious and film shows shown at periodical intervals during the winter evinced lively interest.

“The part-time Missioner, R. S. Reid, Esq., has maintained contact with the local members, and the health of the community on the whole has been good.

“The present premises situated at St. Margaret's Hall being restricted and inadequate, naturally curbs our activities to a certain extent, but the Branch Committee recently elected are doing what they can to brighten the lives of those who are cut off from the entertainments and pleasures enjoyed by persons with normal hearing.

“One of the outstanding events of the year was the Coronation of our beloved Queen Elizabeth on 2nd June 1953, and at Head-

quarters, Kirkcaldy, the large hall was filled to capacity by members and friends, watching the Coronation Ceremony on television. This television was gifted to the Fife Mission by the National Institute for the Deaf, London, through the appeal by Miss Jeanne Heal, the well-known T.V. personality. The Superintendent and Missioner, Mr Rodger, interpreted this wonderful service to the Deaf members.

“We are very much indebted to Dunfermline Town Council for the Coronation parcels under their Coronation Gift Scheme, and each member residing in Dunfermline area received a parcel of goods.

“The employment situation is on the whole quite satisfactory at present, and, given the opportunity, the deaf make excellent tradesmen. Women and men alike often have the record of a life-time of faithful service to employers, who pay tribute to their skill and industry. The Disabled Persons Employment Act has been helpful, but the personal touch which the Missioner brings as Interpreter between Employer and Employee is as necessary as it is invaluable.

“Visitations form a most important part of the work of the Missioner. The aged and sick in Homes or Hospitals or Institutions receive regular and special attention. It is noteworthy that however serious their ailments, the Deaf and Dumb are uncomplaining and unfretting, having a childlike faith and trust in the skill of Doctors and in their Heavenly Father. Whatever the future may hold for our handicapped friends, one thing is certain, that to help them to face life bravely and to find life in all its fullness, the Spiritual work of the Mission must be fully maintained. The Superintendent and Missioner has carried out periodical visits to members residing in the Dunfermline area.”

### **(c) Other Handicapped Persons.**

No marked progress has been made in this field. The interim arrangements with the British Red Cross Society continues as to welfare visits to permanently Handicapped Persons other than the Blind or Deaf and Dumb, and an attempt has been made to assess requirements and developments which might be instituted by visiting 50 selected cases.

Records have been completed with regard to the people visited, and a meeting with other statutory bodies and Voluntary Organisations interested in this field of welfare is being arranged in an endeavour to arrive at some basis for the presentation of a completed scheme to the Department of Health.

## PROVISION OF ACCOMMODATION

### under Section 21 of the National Assistance Act.

#### (a) Residential.

With the completion of outstanding work at Garthdee early in January, three Corporation Homes—Davaar, Garthdee, and Garvock House—have been in operation during the past year. The Homes provide altogether accommodation for 53 persons, that is, 35 women and 18 men. The following statistics give the position in each of the Homes at the beginning and end of the year:—

NUMBER OF RESIDENTS.					
	At 1/1/53.	Admissions during year.	Discharges during year.	At 31/12/53.	Vacancies at 31/12/53.
Davaar . . .	8	11	7	12	3
Garthdee . . .	Nil.	26	12	14	4
Garvock House	15	9	7	17	3

There was never any doubt about the need for this additional accommodation, and it is still early to try to lay down a hard and fast figure as to what the final requirements for a town of this size might be. There are contributory factors to be considered, such as the effect of improved domiciliary services. Sufficient accommodation is, however, available at present to ensure that no old person suffers hardship by having to wait too long for admission. Many old people are, naturally, reluctant to commit themselves to the final step of giving up their own homes and entering a Residential Home, and it has been the practice in such instances to suggest that the old person enters the Home for a trial period of up to a month. I think it is a tribute to the staffs of the Homes and the standard of accommodation generally, to say that in no case where this trial period was offered has the old person decided to return home.

The Homes in Dunfermline are very much a part of the community. The number of spontaneous offers of entertainment and gifts given on festive occasions bears this out. Throughout the winter months, particularly, various organisations provide entertainments at the Homes, and this is greatly appreciated by the Residents.

A television set was provided at Garvock House by an anonymous donor, and sets were also provided at both Davaar and Garthdee by the Dunfermline Rotary Club. These sets are giving a great deal of enjoyment to the residents, who fully appreciate the thoughtfulness and generosity of the donors.

The majority of the residents are unable to attend Church and they look forward to the weekly services in the Homes conducted by the Chaplains. Sincere thanks are due to the Rev. R. S. Bishop



(Davaar), Rev. D. Brown (Garvock), and Rev. W. S. Carr (Garthdee) not only for the provision of these services but for the general interest shown in the welfare of the residents.

Turning to Luscar House, it is anticipated that this Home, which is specially designed to accommodate handicapped and infirm persons who are not in need of hospitalisation, should be ready for occupation by about July 1954. At the introduction of the National Assistance Act in 1948, it was fairly obvious that there would be a need for the provision, within limits, of different types of residential accommodation, and while not perhaps achieving the ideal, Luscar House will go a long way towards helping to solve the difficulties with which the Social Services Department is faced from time to time in providing accommodation for persons who are not eligible for Old People's Homes but who require care and attention not amounting to hospital treatment. Every effort is made to co-operate with the Hospitals Board of Management with a view to ensuring that in so far as the Social Services Department can assist, there is no delay in discharging a patient because of a lack of after-care facilities, and the provision of additional accommodation at Luscar House will further improve the position.

Thanks are due to Kirkcaldy Town Council for the continued use of Abden Home, and to the West Fife Group Hospitals Board of Management for the use, on occasions, of accommodation at the Northern Hospital. Both of these Authorities will, for obvious reasons, be looking forward to the opening of Luscar House.

#### **(b) Temporary Accommodation.**

There was no need for the provision of Temporary Accommodation on any major scale, but use was made of the Northern Hospital on occasions for the provision of accommodation for wives and families in cases of eviction.

### **GENERAL WELFARE.**

The provision of a great number of Residential Homes throughout the country had for a time a tendency to overshadow what should be the first object of any Welfare Service, namely, assisting the aged and the infirm to carry on living a normal home life as long as possible in their own homes, and once again I would like to draw attention to and pay tribute to two of the most important services which are operated for this purpose. I refer to the Domestic Help Service and the Meals on Wheels Service. Eighty-eight old

people have been supplied with Domestic Help during the year. The Domestic Help Supervisor works in close co-operation with the Social Services Department and is able to report any special difficulties being experienced by the old people in receipt of the Domestic Help Service. Forty-eight applications were dealt with where persons considered they were unable to pay the full charge for Domestic Help and a reduced charge was allowed in every case.

### **Meals on Wheels Service.**

The Meals on Wheels Service has also proved to be of great benefit to many old people. During the year a total of 4,800 meals was delivered. Three course meals continue to be procured at the very favourable price of 1s. 3d., and the charge to recipients remained at 1s. per meal. The Town Council met the balance plus the cost of transport. With two vans in operation, the W.V.S. has been required to provide two drivers and helpers twice weekly but, assisted by some voluntary workers, they have managed to carry out this service without interruption throughout the year.

Sincere thanks are due to all concerned, with particular mention, perhaps, of the W.V.S. Organisers who supervise the arrangements and keep the scheme running smoothly.

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Assistance was given to the Old People's Welfare Committee in the production of a booklet setting out the statutory and voluntary services available. This booklet was widely circulated to individuals and Organisations having an interest in the welfare of old people in a further endeavour to ensure that no genuine case of need will be neglected because of lack of knowledge of the services available. Voluntary effort by Organisations and individuals is playing a very considerable part in widening the scope of these services, and I would like to single out for mention in this connection one very special need. I refer to the need for a sitter-in service to assist in the instances where old people living alone become ill and require to have someone in constant attendance. It is, I think, fairly obvious that the Nursing Service and the Home Help Service cannot be called upon to cope with such a situation. The cases arising are not numerous, at least in so far as is known to this Department, but each case presents a serious problem. I am glad to be able to state that it was always possible to find people with sufficient experience to act as sitters-in overnight when required, and where the old person was unable to make any contribution, the Dunfermline District Nursing Association paid for the services of a sitter-in. I mention

this matter particularly because the problem is one which may increase considerably in future years.

### Chiropody.

The Chiropody Service provided in Dunfermline by the Dunfermline District Nursing Association and in Rosyth by the Rosyth Branch of the Dunfermline and Rosyth Old People's Welfare Committee has proved a great benefit to many old people who could not otherwise afford to have this treatment, and is worthy of particular mention.

### Visitation, etc.

In connection with the investigation of applications for the provision of various welfare services, 400 visits were paid by the staff of the Social Services Department during the year.

Arrangements for the allocation of the annual grants from the Anonymous Donors' Christmas Season Coal Fund and Goodall Trust, the Gardiners' Charitable Trust, and the Cunningham Bequest were carried out. In all, 97 persons received grants from those Funds.

### Free School Meals.

Thirty new applications were investigated, involving 56 children. Of these applications, 22 were granted and 8 refused.

At the beginning of 1953, 173 children were in receipt of free meals, and at 31st December 1953 there were 211 children receiving Free School Meals.

Receiving meals, 31st December 1952 ..	75	families	involving	173	children.
Applications investigated during 1953 ..	30	..	..	56	..
	105	..	..	229	..
Ceased during 1953 .. . . . . .	4	..	..	7	..
	101	..	..	222	..
Applications refused during 1953 .. .	8	..	..	11	..
Receiving meals, 31st December 1953 ..	93	..	..	211	..

### Compulsory Removals.

It was necessary to take action on two occasions under the compulsory removal provisions of Section 47 of the National Assistance Act. Action of this nature was only taken after all other expedients had failed.

**Care of Property.**

Action was taken on four occasions under Section 48 of the National Assistance Act with regard to looking after property of persons admitted to Hospital.

**Burials.**

Under Section 50 of the National Assistance Act, 3 burials were carried out of persons who were found dead where there was no relative or friend able or willing to carry out the necessary arrangements.

**Acknowledgments.**

I would take this opportunity of acknowledging the support given by members of the Town Council, the co-operation of my colleagues, and the services carried out by all members of the Social Services Department staff, including staffs in charge of Corporation Homes, and would also like to acknowledge the help given generally by many voluntary workers.

